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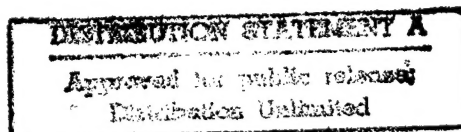


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SOVIET UNION POLITICAL AFFAIRS

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PARTY, STATE AFFAIRS

UKRAINIAN CC CP PLENUM DISCUSSES RESTRUCTURING

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 27 Mar 87 pp 1-4

[RATAU report on speeches at the 24-25 March 1987 Ukrainian CP Central Committee Plenum: "To Energetically Implement Restructuring, To Work in a New Way"]

[Excerpts] As has already been reported, a plenum of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee took place on 24-25 March of this year, at which an examination was made of the tasks of the republic's party organizations in connection with efforts to intensify restructuring and to improve work with personnel, in accordance with the decisions of the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

The plenum's participants expressed their unanimous support of the decisions of the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee plenum and of the course set for restructuring and for accelerating social and economic development.

The Ukrainian CP Central Committee Plenum was preceded by a large amount of preparatory work in order to ensure that, in drawing up plenum documents, the greatest possible consideration would be taken of the views of the members of the Central Committee and of oblast party committees. The draft documents prepared by the Central Committee Politburo were sent to all the oblast party committees, Central Committee departments, and the directors of republic organizations and institutions who belong to the Central Committee and the Auditing Commission.

Many suggestions were made and wishes expressed concerning the important questions which are connected with intensifying restructuring in the economy, accelerating scientific and technical progress, conserving resources, introducing new management methods, and improving the work of Ukrainian State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex (Gosagroprom) organs. Much attention was devoted to questions of improving people's working, living and everyday conditions and of providing the population with food products and industrial goods.

Many Central Committee members recommended a further spelling out and expansion of those provisions of the documents which are aimed at a democratization of intra-party life, at increasing the role of plenums, party committees, buros and secretariats, at ensuring strict observance of the

principle of collegiality in management, at expanding openness, and at developing criticism and self-criticism, especially criticism "from below".

The Plenum took place in a spirit of business-like efficiency, constructive criticism, and high-principled discussion of pressing problems. The experience of restructuring was subjected to a demanding examination and the need to support the new beginnings, which are a product of our life, was discussed.

The participants in the Ukrainian CP Central Committee Plenum thoroughly and searchingly analyzed work with personnel in the republic's party organizations, uncovered deficiencies and their causes, and indicated ways to solving the problem, posed by the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, of modernizing personnel policy and ensuring that it is inseparably connected with the key directions in the struggle for social and economic acceleration.

V.P. MYSNICHENKO, KHARKOV OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE FIRST SECRETARY

A fundamental restructuring in the life of the party and society is inconceivable without ensuring reliable supply of personnel, without serious changes in the psychology, in the criteria for evaluating the operating style and methods of managers and executives in each sector, said the first secretary of the Kharkov Oblast party committee, Comrade V. P. Mysnichenko, opening the debate. It must be confessed that, in our oblast also, we still have not succeeded in overcoming phenomena of stagnation, in making more effective use of scientific production and personnel potentials, and in implementing the management mechanism of relying on organizations' own resources (khozyaystvenniy mekhanizm) and other levers for acceleration.

The oblast party committee is seriously concerned that industry, transportation and construction within the oblast have not been working satisfactorily during the first quarter. There still has not been a restructuring in the thinking of certain managers; they are lacking in a sense of responsibility, in political flair, and in the ability to motivate people. And some are simply not going along with us. During the past 2 years, 70 workers, who were unable to fit into the processes of renewal, who had lost their sense of the new, the ability to seek the advice of the workers, to listen to the opinion of primary party organizations, have been removed from their positions within the apparatus of the oblast party committee.

It was pointed out in the address that party and government organizations, concerning themselves more purposefully with personnel questions in the sphere of material production, have frequently lost sight of workers in the service sectors. As a result, many persons have ended up there by chance, including in management positions, and a number of these have become involved in abuses, machinations, and bribe-taking. Thefts involving large sums of money and the misappropriation materials have been permitted occur in the construction of cooperative garages in Kharkov.

We are deeply convinced that the struggle against unearned incomes and against violations of the norms of socialist morals and morality must be intensified.

But, on the other hand, we should do more of substance to improve educational and preventive work.

The speaker drew attention to the fact that it still frequently happens that personnel, both in on the local level and in higher organs, are evaluated not on the basis of their professional and political qualities, but according to personnel questionnaire data, on the basis of a first impression or initial information. At the same time, the regulations established for their selection are too strict; this is particularly characteristic of the administrative organs department of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee. We think, continued the speaker, that the Secretariat and the departments of the Central Committee should display greater trust in local party and government organs, particularly under conditions of democratization of personnel policy. At the same time, he gave examples of open, interested discussions of nominees, followed by secret balloting, in elections of the first secretary of the Sakhnovshchinskiy Rayon party committee, of party committee secretaries at tractor and turbine plants, and of a number of collective farm chairmen and production unit supervisors.

A great deal of attention was given in the speech to problems of training highly qualified labor cadres for the region, particularly in trade schools, of computer training, and of revising study programs and texts to take account of the tasks of restructuring.

I. G. GRINTSOV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE SUMY OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE

We should admit, in the spirit of self-criticism, emphasized the first secretary of the Sumy Oblast party committee, Comrade I. G. Grintsov, that restructuring is going slowly with us, not at the rates that would be wished. One of the reasons is that by no means all party organizations and labor collectives have yet been made a part of the restructuring process. The primary party organization secretary still hides behind management problems; he is still indecisive in the evaluation of personnel. In some places, the figure of the director is being elevated above the party organization, and this is having an effect on the activity level of the party members and of the secretary himself. Not all members and candidate members of the oblast party committee and of city and rayon party committees are engaged in active work.

We have been justly criticized today for deficiencies in personnel work within the Glukhov party organization. We also have other failings. Consideration of party member views and public sentiment as well as the election of managers must make it impossible for a person who lacks firm party and moral principles to end up in supervisory work.

It is understood that restructuring requires time, that painstaking and consistent efforts are needed. But, also, we cannot drag out this process.

Problems must be solved today and must be solve creatively, so that success is persistently achieved. But there are many bottlenecks, and reserves are being poorly utilized. Grain yields and cattle productivity remain low in the oblast. The situation in industry, construction, and the municipal economy is improving only slowly.

The speaker criticized a number of ministries and departments in this connection, particularly the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry, which is to blame that the rebuilding and retooling of the Lebedin piston ring plant are is being carried out. How is it possible to fulfill a plan when the builders fail to deliver a third of the crushed stone and almost half of the wood products needed to meet the requirements over a two-month period? An analogous situation exists also in the supply of materials to enterprises of the processing and light industries.

Speaking about the reasons for slow progress in restructuring, Comrade I. G. Grintsov pointed to the fear of taking risks and the fear of assuming responsibility for possible consequences and mistakes. And, what's more, of taking responsibility for the independent solution of an assigned group of problems. The Ukrainian CP Central Committee must set an example in this regard. Why not, let's say, entrust the oblast party committees with final decision-making on questions connected with soviet and economic management personnel? This would be all the more appropriate if, at the same time, discussion of not one, but several candidates, is introduced.

The speaker also called attention to the importance of the press taking a critical stance. But criticism, like propaganda of leading experience, must be objective. A party organ can't be made to please everyone. Reporting on party themes, and on the work style of party committees must be entrusted to the most experienced and knowledgeable people.

N. F. VOROBYEV, PARTY COMMITTEE SECRETARY AT THE KALUSH KHLORVINIL PRODUCTION ASSOCIATION

In his address, the association's party committee secretary, Comrade N.F. Vorobyev devoted his main attention to the initial lessons of restructuring party work at the Kalush Khlorvinil production association imeni 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and, in particular, in construction of an ethylene and propylene production facility. The creation of temporary party groups, the organization of socialist competition, publicity about it, concern for the everyday lives of those taking part in the construction work -- all this was aimed at increasing work rates. And the result was a project that was completed in a short time.

But along with this, we still have many problems and deficiencies. And their solution does not always depend upon the party organization alone, on the party committee. Last year, for example, a proposal for the future development of the association was drawn up and coordinated with two deputy ministers of the chemical industry. But, at the beginning of this year, the program approved for the 12th Five-Year Plan literally turns everything "upside down". No capital investments are allotted for housing and social and cultural projects and, without them, further development of this, the city of chemists, is impossible. They are also not allocated for construction work employing the system of using the association's own resources. As a result, having created a solid construction base through our own efforts, we are being forced to dismantle it.

The main problem of restructuring, continued the party committee secretary, is undoubtedly one of personnel. There is something to think about here. We carried out a sociological study, as it were. And it turned out that there were very few people who wanted top director positions. Many more wanted to shift over to become workers. There are several reasons for such a situation, among them insufficient incentives for engineering work. Many of the national economy's specialists are still being used in ways other than intended. Critically evaluating the situation within the association, it must be said directly that, accompanying a general increase in the militancy of the party organization and an increase in the activity of a majority of the party members, there is still a passivity, a readiness to pass over shortcomings in silence, and a desire to avoid aggravating people. Recently, for example, the chief of one of our leading production units presented a report at an open party meeting.. The meeting could be classified as stormy; people spoke out openly about shortcomings. But then they approved a pro forma, bland performance evaluation, which made no mention of deficiencies. In other words, the force of habit and of the attraction to old, unprincipled ways is still very strong. To instill a trust in people, to create a feeling of responsibility for assigned tasks -- this is the direction which the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum set for us.

A. P. LYASHKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE UKSSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Characterizing the work that has been done in the republic with regard to broadening the rights and increasing the responsibility of enterprises, to changing them over to full cost accounting and self-financing, to raising the quality of output, to improving management of capital construction, and to establishing production cooperatives in various spheres, the Chairman of the UkSSR Council of Ministers, Comrade A. P. Lyashko stressed that the changes which are taking place in the areas of production and management still lack the character of a basic qualitative turning point. Inertia, the habit of working in the old way, is reflected in a many things. Existing shortcomings are dying out slowly. Responsibility for this lies, in the first instance, with the Council of Ministers and its Presidium.

Analysis of the situation in local areas shows that, in many ministries, departments and oblast soviet executive committees, red tape, bureaucratism, and an absence of responsibility are still being permitted to exist. The administrative apparatus has not done enough to improve the organization of production and control, and unity has not been reached in the approval and implementation of decisions. This has also been demonstrated by examination, at a session of the Council of Ministers Presidium, of the problem of restructuring the activity of the UkSSR State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex.

The introduction of modern methods of labor organization and the retooling and renovation of production sharply increases the demands that are placed on the level of professional competence of management personnel and of the specialists in ministries and departments. In these conditions, the knowledge and skills of all workers must be supplemented and improved on a continuous basis. But the organizational forms and the methods of training and

retraining personnel, which have evolved, are no longer responsive to modern requirements. We must sharply increase the social and economic returns which are received from institutes, faculties and courses for the retraining of personnel and must, where necessary, establish new, well-equipped faculties. The organization of studies should be greatly improved; we should get away from their excessively academic character and should pay more attention to the study of leading experience.

In working with management personnel, the government of the republic is devoting more attention to their mastery of modern economic management methods and of economic administrative levers. The certification of responsible workers of soviet and social organizations will help in this regard.

A. P. Lyashko dwelt upon the measures which are being taken in the republic to make up for deficits which have been permitted to develop in the republic's national economy since the beginning of the year. The most important task is, within the next few weeks, to achieve rates which will ensure that planned annual goals are achieved. The way this task is performed will make it possible to evaluate the words and assurances of every director, to judge his ability to restructure himself.

V. O. MIRONOV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE DONETSK OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE

Restructuring is proceeding but, under complicated and difficult conditions, it is not going easily, declared the first secretary of the Donetsk Oblast party committee, Comrade V. P. Mironov. In the spirit of self-criticism, it should be confessed that we still have not reached the point where all our directors are performing persistently and purposefully. For a number of positions, particularly in ferrous metallurgy, the coal industry, and in capital construction, a turning point has not yet occurred for us. Contracted deliveries are not being completely fulfilled, output quality is improving only slowly and, as formerly, there are important procedural malfunctions in transportation.

At the present time, specific measures are being developed in the oblast with the aim of decisively improving the state of affairs. In the process of this work, many party, soviet, and economic managers are raising a whole series of problems which, in our opinion, are factors delaying restructuring and acceleration. Today, as is known, initiative and enterprise by management personnel deserve special attention and encouragement. However, instances are being quite frequently encountered when a director finds a solution, things go well, but it turns out that this does not correspond to certain methodologies, instructions etc. And he is held to account.

We also cannot but notice that measures developed to improve the management mechanism frequently do not work because they often are not supported by material resources. This concerns, for example, development of the by-product coke industry. Arbitrary decisions also continue to be made, without consideration to the specific conditions that have developed in local areas. This year, for example, the UkSSR Ministry of Construction (Comrade V. P. Salo) planned a 26-percent increase in the volume of construction by the

Etsktyzhstroy combine, as compared to actually achieved levels, although it is clear that there are no real possibilities for such a jump.

Many workers have the idea that restructuring means simply increasing the number of visits made to local areas. But what is happening? They are now making these trips under the guise of providing practical help, of studying one or another question, but, as before, everything boils down to checking up, to compiling a report, to discovering deficiencies which, for the most part, we already know about. And the problems stay the same.

Further, the speaker talked about planning errors, the burden of which is being laid on enterprises and on local party and soviet organs. The new USSR law on the state enterprise (association), the speaker said, must precisely spell out the direct responsibility of the ministries and planning organs for providing enterprises with resources.

I would also like to emphasize that the first secretaries of party committees, particularly of oblast party committees, must set the tone in improving the style and form of party leadership. The failure to remember Leninist norms of party life, as, to varying degrees, has occurred in the Voroshilov, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov oblasts, essentially compromises party efforts with regard to restructuring, and we need to draw serious lessons from this.

V. G. DIKUSAROV, SECRETARY OF THE KHMELNITSKIY OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE,

The first secretary of the Khmel'nitskiy Oblast party committee, V. G. Dikusarov took the floor. I will begin my address, he said, with the unpleasant events that have occurred recently in a number of the republic's oblasts. I think that each of us is asking himself the question, how it could happen that experienced secretaries, who should have served as an example for others, have been removed from their positions with fairly severe judgments against them?

There are questions here for us to think about, both for each of us individually and for the Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo. In my opinion, a loss of self control, of demanding personal standards, toadyism, and servility led to such an unfortunate result. Therefore, however much we are accustomed to criticism from others, however much we talk about its importance, it is nonetheless necessary for each of us, and first of all for the directors and the first secretaries of oblast party committees, to constantly analyze self-critically our own conduct and actions.

The plenums of the Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk and Lvov oblast party committees force us to conclude that restructuring of the work style of party committees, in the spirit of the demands made by the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum, needs to be accomplished more rapidly and more persistently.

The speaker, who, after serving more than 12 years as first secretary of the Chernovtsy Oblast party committee, was transferred in 1985 to Khmel'nitskiy Oblast, noted the positive aspects of shifting personnel around laterally. In his opinion, such a practice, if it is carried out in a timely way, deserves attention and wider use.

Having studied and thought about the decisions of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the oblast's party organizations are striving to translate them into practical accomplishments. The reasons for phenomena of stagnation in the economy, principally in agriculture and also in social and cultural construction work have been critically analyzed here, and the main directions of work connected with restructuring have been determined.

The main reasons for past derelictions can be found in crude violations of party principles governing work with personnel and in the weak influence which primary party organizations have exerted on the state of affairs. First-priority attention is now being devoted to strengthening the personnel of city and rayon party committees and to increasing their role. The management of a number of rayon soviet executive committees and collective and state farms has been strengthened and a reserve of 200 young specialists and Komsomol workers has been formed.

However it is still too early to say that personnel work in the oblast already meets today's requirements. Insufficient demands are still being placed on the directors of labor collectives with regard to the training of reserve cadres.

I will give an example. This year we retired two collective farm chairmen, Heroes of Socialist Labor, each of whom had headed farms for 30-plus years. Of course, work at these farms had gone well, and it is therefore that they are heroes. But nobody had thought about who was coming up, under these heroes, about whom they would pass on their batons to. It turned out, unfortunately, that we were forced to import directors for these collective farms from other, neighboring farms.

The speaker stressed the enormous importance of studying, generalizing and disseminating restructuring experience.

V.S. SHEVCHENKO, CHAIRMAN OF THE UKSSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM

The chairman of the UkSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade V. S. Shevchenko, having noted that the republic soviets have begun to be bolder and more persistent in posing and solving questions relating to the social and economic development of the territories which are subordinate to them and of improving people's working and everyday living conditions, called attention to the insufficient use which many of them are making of the powers and rights which they have been given. For example, this year in Chernigov and Volyn oblasts, the amount of the funds obtained from all-union enterprises for purposes of developing the social sphere was from two-thirds to one-half of the average for the republic. In Vinnitsa, Chernogov, and Cherkassy oblasts, soviets are making insufficient effort to draw the same category of enterprises into the production of consumer goods. In Dnepropetrovsk, Kirovograd, Odessa, and Kherson oblasts last year, from 13 to 7 million rubles in capital investments allocated for housing construction were not spent.

The strengthening of democratic principles in the work of soviets is acquiring exceptional importance. But there is still much formalism here. The conduct

of sessions is frequently characterized by organizationalism, standing committees of local soviets frequently meet not because there is a need for them to meet but rather for the sake of form, and regular accounting by officials to soviets and to the population is not being provided for, always and everywhere. We note that, last year, the chairman of the Voroshilovgrad Oblast party committee, Comrade R.P. Zverev, did not meet even once with a single labor collective and failed to present a progress report. UkSSR Supreme Soviet deputies, comrades V.I. Delikatniy, V. A. Lisitsyn, V.K. Shamborskiy, P.P. Vokov, and several others seldom visit their okrugs. As has been noted with complete justification in an address to the Plenum, the UkSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium must also demonstrate more initiative in improving the working practices of the soviets.

Comrade V. S. Shevchenko devoted a large part of her address to the question of observing socialist legality. We cannot but be concerned by the fact that the republic's local soviets are still passing acts which contradict the laws. All kinds of injustices and the suppression of workers' rights are reflected, as in a mirror, in their letters and appeals to the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and to the UkSSR CP Central Committee and the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium. People are indignantly reporting about the misuse of public wealth, about the illegal activities of certain directors, and about abuses of power and official position, particularly in the allocation of housing.

In connection with the upcoming elections to local soviets of peoples deputies and with elections of peoples judges and peoples assessors, which will be conducted under a changed system, the chairman of the UkSSR supreme Soviet Presidium pointed out the good opportunity which presents itself to strengthen the composition of the deputies and personnel cadres of the soviets.

V.D. PARKHOMENKO, UkSSR MINISTER OF HIGHER AND SECONDARY SPECIALIZED EDUCATION

The program for improving work within institutions of higher education has been determined by the basic directions of restructuring higher and secondary specialized education, emphasized the minister of higher and secondary specialized education, Comrade V. D. Parkhomenko. We have begun practical work to implement them. A good deal, it would seem, is being done. And nevertheless, we are not satisfied with what has been accomplished so far. Obviously, this is also because many deficiencies have accumulated in the area of higher educational institutions. Judge for yourselves. The higher school has been developed extensively during recent years, on the basis of rapidly increasing the number of higher educational institutions and the number of specialties. Essentially, we have favored a gross output approach in our work. Besides this, the principle of regional training of cadres has come to predominate.

All this has led, on one hand, to a considerable dispersal of scientific and personnel potential as well as to a clear lack of correlation between the qualifications of managing levels at higher educational institutions and the demands of the times. The following figures illustrate this. Of the rectors, prorectors, deans and faculty heads, approximately two-thirds are not significant scholars. Moreover, only 22 percent of the doctors of science are

below retirement age, and there are still fewer among the faculty deans. On the other hand, a tendency has been noted toward the creation of a large number of small higher educational institutions, toward a scattering and duplication of specialties, toward small-sized enrollments and, to some extent, overproduction of specialists, and to inferior equipping and, as a result, to a reduction in the basic character and the significance of science at higher educational institutions. On this basis, there is a pressing need to look both for new approaches in our work itself and for new solutions to realizing the fundamental principle of restructuring -- the integration of education, science and production. It seems to us that the realization of integrated processes should follow two, mutually related directions -- within the system of higher educational institutions and through a strengthening of ties with sectoral ministries, the UkSSR Academy of Sciences, and other institutions. What we are talking about is rejecting the regional principle of specialist training, redefining its profile, and perfecting the network of higher educational institutions and their branches by combining ones that have the same profiles and ones that have small enrollments.

But we expect the most important returns to come from strengthening ties with the Academy of Sciences and with the sectoral ministries and from the search for new organizational forms for mutual relationships, up to and including the merging of higher educational institutions with institutes attached to the Academy and with enterprises in various sectors. The guarantee of an increase in the quality of specialist training lies in a unification of efforts.

V.V. OSIPOV, COMMANDER OF DISTRICT MILITARY FORCES

Communist Party members and all personnel of the Red Banner Kiev Military District warmly support the domestic and foreign policy of the party and its strategic course toward a new style of work, declared the district troop commander, Comrade V.V. Osipov. The activities of the military council, of command and political personnel and of the party organizations have grown more businesslike and self-critical. Greater demands are being placed on supervisory personnel to achieve higher quality solution of existing problems, while taking account of the complexity of the military and political situation in the world and of the increased aggressiveness of the ruling imperialist circles of the United States of America and NATO. Results achieved in military training have begun to be assessed more stringently and military discipline has been tightened.

The district's military personnel are selflessly playing a part in efforts to undo the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear electric power plant, are contributing to the struggle against the snows, and stand in a state of readiness to fight flooding.

At the same time, in a number of respects, the state of affairs within the district does not meet party requirements for restructuring. This is explained, mainly, by negligence in work with personnel, to which intense attention is now being devoted. This most important question has been discussed in a principled way within the Military Council and in meetings of party activists. A part of the supervisory personnel have seriously corrected their work, but it has been necessary to remove certain ones from their

positions. Steps are being taken to improve the ideological temper and the professional training of personnel.

It is known that a person's attitude toward fulfilling his duty with regard to defending the motherland is formed before he is called up to the army -- in the family, the school, in the labor collective and social organizations, by the entire system of military and patriotic upbringing. A good deal is being done on this plane: hundreds of military sports camps and schools and universities for the future fighting man are in operation and the Komsomol, the DOSAAF organization, and war and labor veterans are making their contributions to the training of pre-draft youth. As a whole, the district's troops are being provided with good reinforcements.

At the same time, joint efforts are needed to instill high civic qualities and a correct understanding of social duty within the young generation. The complexities of military technology and weapons, the growing intensity of military training, and the heavy strain of daily service, as never before, require the ideological vigilance, moral stability, physical fitness, and technical training of young people. These qualities must be created with even greater persistence. Improvement is needed in the basic military training given in schools and in vocational and technical training institutions and in the preparation of officer personnel at military educational institutions, as well as in military sponsorship work.

A. M. KOZHUSHKO, CHIEF OF THE DONETSK RAILROAD

Transport within the Donbass region has not been performing satisfactorily this year, the chief of the Donetsk Railroad admitted self-critically, and this has effected the results of the entire national economy of the region we serve. The directors of the railroad's administrative services and I, as chief of the railroad, bear the blame for this. The criticism directed at us in the report at the Central Committee Plenum was justified; we are drawing serious conclusions from it and intensifying our work.

The situation on the railroad is being stabilized. Jointly with industrial enterprises, specific measures have been developed to make up financial obligations which have permitted to occur. Efforts are being directed first of all toward creating conditions for the normal operation of metallurgical plants, the chemical industry, and agriculture. At the same time, the situation with regard to hauling our main freight, coal, remains tense and requires additional measures. The speaker made a number of specific proposals for further improving the work of transportation, taking account of the lessons of the past winter, which included increasing the pool of snow-removal equipment and the capacity of loading and unloading technology and improving the system of car movements.

In consideration of the special features of working under winter conditions, the USSR State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Railways, and railway management should ensure that transport of the most necessary kinds of freight is optimally planned, so that the economy of the region being serviced will suffer less in this complicated period.

The railway chief turned to the republic's ministers of ferrous metallurgy, the coal industry, and power and electrification, comrades D. P. Galkin, N.S. Surgay, and V. F. Skryarov, with a call for joint efforts in the matter of intensifying the transportation process.

I. S. PLYUSHCH, CHAIRMAN OF THE KIEV OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE

Speaking at the Plenum, the chairman of the Kiev Oblast party committee, Comrade I. S. Plyushch stressed that the process of renewal is still moving slowly. And one of the reasons is that we have not conquered our own fears, that we are afraid of risks, of taking responsibility for possible mistakes. Many directors are not getting on well with the changing management mechanism and have not learned to work under conditions of developing democracy. As a result, their work lacks stability, as witnessed by serious errors in the economic area during January and February of this year. For example, the Vasilkov Refrigerator Plant was out of operation for 15 days this year because it did not receive supplies of materials and raw products. The repeated appeals of the soviet executive committee to the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances (Minlegpishchemash) so far have produced no results. We think that the UkSSR Council of Ministers, that Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade G.V. Dzis, should involve himself in helping to solve this problem.

Having made note of difficulties and negligence in the social development of the oblast, the speaker pointed out that these are being aggravated by the necessity of carrying out a great deal of work to rebuild population centers adjoining the region of the Chernobyl Nuclear Electric Power Plant, to repair and restore roads and to construct housing. It is to be hoped that the State Planning Commission, the UkSSR Ministry of Construction, and Ukrainian agricultural construction authorities will respond with great understanding to the problems of the oblast and that they will help to accelerate the build-up of capacity by construction organizations, and will also help them to perform growing volumes of work.

Problems of providing food products to the inhabitants of Kiev city and oblast are a subject of special attention by the soviets. A pressing need has arisen for them, together with the soviet organs of the city of Kiev and with interested ministries and departments, to concern themselves with expanding the capacities of processing enterprises and the network of vegetable warehouses and packing and procurement shops. The UkSSR State Planning Commission (Comrade V. P. Popov) and the UkSSR State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex (comrades A.N. Tkachenko and V. K. Solomakha) must provide practical assistance in this.

Restructuring equally concerns all elements of administration. But so far, unfortunately, there has been no reduction in the barrage of paper, in the large numbers of instructions, directives, and summonses to superior organizations. Particular complications are created by inspections, which frequently require the personal participation of top managers. The time has come to put an end to formalism and to concern ourselves with concrete matters.

V. M. KAVUN, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE ZHITOMIR OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE

The first secretary of the Zhitomir Oblast party committee, Comrade V. M. Kavun noted that the oblast party organization is focussing its efforts on ensuring that restructuring penetrates as deeply as possible into the life of the labor collectives. To a large extent, this depends upon the high activity, the businesslike efficiency, and the persistence of party cadres. Their stability plays a large role. But we cannot, he said, put a brake on the process of their renewal for the sake of figures, of percentages. It would seem to follow that we should make bolder use of the practice of coopting elected party workers. Indeed, if we hold to the existing procedure of deciding all personnel questions only during reporting and election meetings, and then only on the basis of the reserve of a given party committee, we will completely obviate the possibility of providing reinforcements of capable, enterprising personnel to those regions where they are insufficient. Possibly, it would be expedient to discuss this proposal at the forthcoming all-union party conference.

The times are now placing particularly high demands on the ideological-political and moral make-up of management personnel. It is necessary to talk about this now also because, a short time ago, the Ukrainian CP Central Committee approved important documents regarding the Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk and Lvov party organizations. Clearly, the shortcomings that were uncovered in these oblasts are cause for great concern on the part of all members of the Central Committee. Frankly speaking, we are all asking ourselves the question, how it could happen that such things occurred in such large party organizations? Undoubtedly, that this became possible was first of all the fault of the first secretaries of the oblast party committees, who violated the norms of party life. But the buro members of these party committees, who had adopted a position of tolerance, also bear considerable responsibility for this. The secretariat, the Central Committee Politburo, and comrades A. A. Titarenko and V.V. Shcherbitskiy, personally, also must assume a certain share of the responsibility. Everything that happened in these oblast should become a serious, instructive lesson for each of us.

Having dwelt on the problem of economic activity, the speaker advised that, last year, the growth rates for industrial and agricultural production volumes and for labor productivity in the oblast exceeded plan quotas. During the first quarter, the planned volume of industrial production will be met and the quota for animal husbandry products will be considerably overfulfilled. But there are still many unused reserves, and all personnel will be required to pass a serious test of their political and organizational maturity.

The help of appropriate republic organizations is needed to solve a number of problems. It is necessary to ensure that plans are in balance, particularly in the processing industry, and they must be backed up by necessary raw material resources. This concerns, first of all, enterprises of the meat, sugar, and flax-processing industries. Problems of land improvement, chalking of acid soils, and providing gas to the oblast's population centers remain unsolved.

B. Ye. PATON, PRESIDENT OF THE UKSSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

In his address, the president of the UkSSR Academy of Sciences, Comrade B. Ye. Paton, emphasized that the center of balance in work to restructure science has now shifted to the institutes. The presidium of the academy has taken specific steps to reorient them in the direction of more timely subject matter and to increase the practical returns from their research. However, restructuring within the academy and its present rates, as was justly noted in the report at the Plenum, still do not respond to modern demands.

The most important things today are all-round development of basic research, first of all in priority directions, and an increase in its singleness of purpose. Only such an approach can ensure that there will be a decisive increase in the real, tangible influence of science on production and that world standards will be attained and surpassed in the most important directions of scientific and technical progress.

The new forms for organizing research and practical application of its results, which have been approved by the CPSU Central Committee and the Ukrainian CP Central Committee, make it possible to solve this problem with the success that is needed. However, it is still early to talk about the mechanism that has been developed for science to exercise an influence on production. There is need for further development of intersectoral and academic scientific and technical complexes, engineering centers and strong points, for an improvement in their activities. There are still many complicated problems here. It is necessary to solve them right now.

Information science and computer technology are presenting broad possibilities for us. In this connection, general computer literacy is acquiring important meaning and specialists capable of effectively solving the complex problems of information science are playing a sharply increasing role. Even now, it is necessary to train them, after appropriately reorienting the curricula of higher educational institutions. The scientists of the Academy of Sciences must make a significant contribution to this.

Activation of the human factor is an inseparable element in restructuring personnel policy. What we are talking about here is managed redistribution of scientific cadres on the basis of the priorities of basic and applied research, increasing the professional mobility of scientists and specialists, and purposeful training of doctors and candidates of sciences to meet the needs of the latest scientific trends.

It must be confessed, said Comrade B. Ye. Paton, that not all directors of scientific institutions and their subdivisions have passed the exam of restructuring. It has been necessary to replace 8 institute directors and many department and laboratory chiefs, who turned out to be incapable of ensuring a sharp turn by their collectives in the direction of intensifying research and increasing the returns of their scientific potential. This line will be persistently pursued in the future as well. The generally accepted procedure of electing the directors of academic institute has now been supplemented by thorough study and analysis of proposed candidates within the collectives and party organization. On the basis of the requirements set

forth in decrees of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee for the Institute of Super-hardened Materials and for institutions of the social sciences section of the UkSSR Academy of Sciences, work with respect to the promotion reserve is being improved.

Yu. A. KOLOMIYETS, CHAIRMAN OF THE UKSSR STATE COMMITTEE FOR THE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

Last year, certain positive shifts were achieved in the development of the republic's agro-industrial complex, but this is only the first step in carrying out the decisions of the 27th Party Congress, said First Deputy Chairman of the UkSSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the UkSSR State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex, Comrade Yu. A. Kolomiyets. We are well aware that rates of development so far are not satisfactory. For a number of important indicators, first of all for the production of grain and sugar beets, the plans are not being fulfilled. For this, the State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex and, primarily, I as its chairman, are being justly criticized by the Ukrainian CP Central Committee and the government of the republic. Necessary conclusions are being drawn from this criticism.

The basic reasons for deficiencies and omissions lie in the fact that a part of the managers and specialists, both in the center and in local areas, still have not recognized the demands which are presented by restructuring and are being slow in shifting over to economic methods of management. Many of them are trying to blame their mistakes and miscalculations on the drought. At the same time, for example, on the irrigated lands in Dnepropetrovsk, Odessa, and Zaporozhye oblasts, only 80 percent of the planned yield of grain and other crops is being obtained. The reason, of course, does not lie only in weather conditions, but also in the responsibility taken by personnel for their assigned areas of work.

Today all organizational work is being transferred directly to the labor collectives. Specialists from the State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex, the oblast committees, and the rayon agro-industrial associations, along with the scientists of the republic, have started to concern themselves more substantially with questions of personnel training and of introducing intensive technology and cost accounting and progressive forms of organizing and paying for work. We are being charged with the task of shifting all agricultural units over to the collective contract system during the present year.

Under present conditions, when a basic reliance is being placed on science, the training and retraining of directors and specialists must be carried out continuously, in a planned way, and on a differentiated basis. It is most expedient to train personnel of the mass professions in specialized professional and technical trade schools (SPTU), but such schools still exist in only half of the rayons. A great deal has to be done also to stabilize cadres of managers and specialists at the farms. At the present time, the secret balloting and the nomination of several candidates in elections of chairmen, and also the constructive appointment of specialists, are being introduced into practice. In connection with this, the State Committee for

the Agro-Industrial Complex has designated measures aimed at a considerable improvement in work with the promotion reserve.

The chairman of the UkSSR State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex devoted a great deal of attention to problems of social and cultural construction in rural areas. Last year, funds used for these purposes increased by a third over 1985. They are actively engaged with this in the Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Poltava oblasts. However, sufficient housing is not available in a majority of the republic's villages. More than 600 villages are utilizing drinking water that has to be shipped in. Such a situation can be corrected only by general efforts. Village inhabitants now have to spend a lot of time travelling to the city to purchase goods, for repairs of household equipment, and to receive medical help. It would seem to follow that the appropriate ministries and departments and, personally, the ministers, comrades A.V. Romanenko and V. I. Slichenko, along with the chairman of the board of the Ukrainian Union of Consumer Societies, Comrade S. V. Litvinenko, should involve themselves more energetically with these problems in the countryside.

G. I. BANDROVSKIY, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE TRANSCARPATHIAN OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE

Assessing our own activity in terms of the high criteria put forth by the party, said the first secretary of the Transcarpathian Oblast party committee, Comrade G.I. Bandrovskiy, we see that many of the harsh evaluations given at the Plenum and contained in the resolutions of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee regarding the Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov oblast party committees should also be applied to ourselves.

What happened in these oblasts -- the result of an inability to work under conditions of democracy -- is a serious blot on the authority of the republic's party organization. It is painful, what happened, painful because these are party organizations with well-known traditions; they should be purveyors of positive experience, and not of those things which we now have to talk about.

The blame for what took place belongs not only to the first secretaries, who have been removed from their jobs, but also to the members of the Central Committee who come from these oblasts. There is only one conclusion -- that it is necessary to establish creative circumstances, in which there will be a competition of views and decisions will be reached on a collegial basis within oblast party committee buros, and in which there will be no possibility for anything like this to happen.

Restructuring has revealed and intensified the struggle of the new with the old, of the progressive with the conservative, the obsolete. Things are proceeding in a complicated and difficult way. But we should not draw hasty conclusions from the initial steps. We need to build up, to accumulate experience.

Dozens of top managers have already been selected in the Transcarpathian Oblast by the system of nominating several candidates for a single position.

However, the speaker noted, this can not be taken as a sign that only deserving directors are being chosen. We, ourselves, are thinking about, and we are teaching party committees to think about, the responsibility of solving personnel problems. There are still both expenditures and errors in this area. The oblast party committee is drawing high-principled conclusions in its assessments of those party organizations where attempts are being made ascribe blunders in the selection and assignment of personnel to the process of democratization.

Following the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the oblast party committee conducted a complex study, based on Vinogradovskiy Rayon, of the personnel services of enterprises and organizations and of their ability and readiness to resolve questions that arise. It was found that, among this category of workers, there is absolutely nobody who has professional training. In terms of their position, they are relegated to the level of technical functionaries and they are being paid accordingly. Ministries and departments are weak with regard to resolving questions on the local level.

The situation is even worse with regard to the selection of managers. Instead of searching joint solutions, the ministries and departments devote themselves to "rejecting" candidates proposed by the oblast.

Acceleration requires the rapid testing and introduction of new forms of management. In this connection, Comrade G. I. Bandrovskiy raised the questions of the need to establish a "Zakarpates" (Transcarpathian lumber industry) production and trade association within the oblast, of utilizing highly productive technology at the Elektrodvigatel Plant, now under construction, and of organizing joint enterprises with the socialist countries. Unfortunately, realization of the latter proposal has run up against the obsolete instructions of the customs, quarantine, veterinary and other services, and also against the indifference of ministries and departments. This is an important question, and it must be resolved.

N. F. OKHMAKEVICH, CHAIRMAN OF THE UKSSR STATE COMMITTEE FOR TELEVISION AND RADION BROADCASTING

Television and radio broadcasting, and the press as well, are to a certain degree a mirror of public opinion. They both form and embody it. Having noted this, the chairman of the UkSSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, Comrade N. F. Okhmakevich, called attention to the increased role and responsibility of the mass information media under modern conditions.

Television and radio broadcasting have already taken definite steps toward becoming an effective instrument for democratizing society. We are using various methods here, but we consider the direct participation of the television viewers and radio listeners in transmissions to be the most important of them. However we still have not learned to speak openly, genuinely, and freely with people; we are presenting few interesting programs devoted to the experience of restructuring; and we have not gotten away from a moralizing, preaching tone. We are not totally achieving the level of artistic broadcasting.

The new conditions of work have made evident the problem that there is a shortage of talented journalistic, director and commentator personnel. We are striving to change television and radio broadcasting over to a commentary style. There is sense in this and it is in keeping with the spirit of the times. But, when we began this experiment, it came to our attention that many of our workers still lack professionalism. However, we do not plan to call off this creative reconnaissance, if we can call it this.

Under conditions of openness and of innovative, deep-going transformations, the problem of competence has arisen, as never before. People are turning to editorial offices with questions which are by no means simple, and they are not simply expecting an answer, but rather specific actions which lead to results. They have faith in the power of our statements and publications. And we will strive not to disappoint them. But our journalistic efforts are not sufficient. Directors from the highest levels of management must continuously appear on television and the radio. This should become standard, and we cannot get along here without the help of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee here.

I fully share the view that the press, television, and radio must work in closer coordination and that the responsibility of journalists for the objectivity of their statements must be increased. But I cannot avoid speaking, comrades, about a rather strange phenomenon what has recently become widespread. Incidents have become more frequently when certain managers are avoiding meetings with workers of the press. I would not mention this if both departmental organs and even party committees were not defending such managers.

There is still another factor restraining our creative quest. This is the weakness of our material and technical base. The rate of construction of a television studio and broadcasting equipment complex in the city of Kiev, and this project is particularly important to us, has now noticeably increased.

In conclusion, N. F. Okhmakevich said that the party members and all workers in television and radio broadcasting consider their most important obligation to be full-scale utilization of the assets of television and radio for the benefit of restructuring and acceleration.

V.V. SHCHERBITSKIY

The closing remarks at the Central Committee Plenum were presented by V.V. Shcherbitskiy.

It think that all participants in the Plenum will agree, he said, that discussion of the pressing problem of the activities of the republic's party organizations took place, as a whole, in a businesslike and critical way. The state of affairs in many sectors and several of the speeches bear testimony to the fact that party members are still having difficulty in restructuring themselves, particularly with regard to economic methods of management and changes in working style. There are many deficiencies in personnel work.

The practical measures taken by the Ukrainian CP Central Committee to carry out the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum have been supplemented by many specific proposals. Many critical comments have also been expressed. They all will be taken into consideration and analyzed in the Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers and other republic organs. The Politburo and the Secretariat of the Central Committee will do everything possible for their more rapid realization and to increase the supervision of their implementation and the responsibility of personnel for overcoming negative phenomena. There must also be a businesslike, critical tone in discussions of the materials from the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum at the plenums of oblast, city and rayon party committees and in primary party organizations. For this purpose, it is necessary to carefully analyze the state of affairs in each sector and to determine the measures which are most likely to produce results, first of all in making up the financial obligations which have been generated since the start of the year. This particularly concerns the machine building complex, light industry, the production of consumer goods, railroad transportation, and construction.

Our plenum has shown that phenomena of stagnation are occurring not only in the republic's economic and social development, but also in methods of party and economic management. And, if we are talking about restructuring, then this means that, in the first instance, it is necessary to change and to improve our methods of work, taking account of new demands. And everybody needs to do more work.

The problems we have to solve are difficult and very difficult, and time is quickly flying by. But it is obligatory that we solve them.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy dwelt on several questions raised in the address by the troop commander of the Red Banner Kiev Military District, Comrade V.V. Osipov. Last year and this year, military personnel have done a colossal amount of work to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Electric Power Plant and in helping to solve economic problems under winter conditions. They are also taking part in measures being carried out to protect population centers, industrial and agricultural enterprises, and other facilities from the spring floods.

In the name of the UkSSR CP Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the republic Council of Ministers, V.V. Shcherbitskiy expressed appreciation to the Army and Navy troops and the civil defense units which successfully solved and are solving these tasks.

The speakers at the Plenum have stressed, V.V. Shcherbitskiy said further, that we have a great deal of work ahead of us, including preparations for the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The CPSU Central Committee resolution on this question and the Appeal of the CPSU Central Committee to the Soviet People have important theoretical and practical significance. In the very near future, the Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo will define specific measures for organizational and political work within the republic in preparation for the Great October Revolution anniversary.

The best way to mark this remarkable date is to achieve new, tangible results in the acceleration of social and economic development.

Each member of the Central Committee and all members of elected party organs must serve as an example in restructuring, must demonstrate initiative and businesslike efficiency in the solution of the problems that exist, and must make their own personal contribution to the fulfillment of plans and socialist obligations.

13032
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LISSR PASSES RESOLUTION ON STATE ARBITRATION TRIBUNALS

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 1 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "At the Lithuanian CP Central Committee and the LiSSR Council of Ministers"; first paragraph source introduction]

[Text] The Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party and the LiSSR Council of Ministers, in conformity with the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers, adopted a decree entitled "Further Improving the Activity of the LiSSR State Arbitration Tribunals and Increasing Their Role in Strengthening Legality and Contract Discipline in the Economy."

The decree notes that the implementation of the socioeconomic tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th Lithuanian CP Congress, the vigorous introduction and effective use of new methods of economic activity, the broadening of independence, and the increasing of accountability, initiative, and socialist resourcefulness of enterprises and organizations demand the strengthening of legality in economic relations. Under these conditions the significance of unconditional fulfillment of economic contracts is increasingly important.

Meanwhile the state of planning and contract discipline in the republic economy still does not meet current requirements. The level of legality is low in the economic activity of certain enterprises of Gosagroprom, the building materials industry, furniture and paper industry, and construction organizations as well as the Elfa Electric Motor Production Association, the Shiauliai Television Plant imeni 40-letiya Sovetskoy Litvy, and the Panevezhis Ekranas Plant. These and a number of other associations and enterprises permits breakdowns in contract deliveries, produce a great deal of poor-quality output, and violate other norms of economic law. Economic contracts are still not being fully used to increase the role of consumers in formulating production plans, renewing and expanding assortment, improving the quality and technical level of output, and stopping the delivery of goods that are not in demand.

In establishing economic links the enterprises of a number of sectors pursue narrowly departmental interests, ignoring national economic needs and, instead of business-like cooperation in performing mutual obligations, engage in bureaucratism and formalistic correspondence.

The State Arbitration System should play an important part in preventing and eliminating the violations of legality and shortcomings that have been noted. But it still is not showing the necessary initiative and persistence in this matter and tolerates a situation where the same enterprises are brought to court for the same violations for a number of years in a row. The causes of breakdowns in plan assignments and contract obligations and identified cases of mismanagement are not carefully analyzed, and the proposals made to eliminate them are not always thorough and effective. The practice of hearing economic disputes right in the labor collectives is not followed widely enough and arbitrators rarely present analyses of the state of plan and contract discipline and propaganda for economic law at the enterprises.

Party and soviet organs are doing a poor job of analyzing the state of legality in economic activity in their areas, do not hold economic managers sufficiently accountable for unconditional performance of contract obligations and elimination of identified shortcomings, and do not make adequate use of arbitration as an important lever for improving economic activity and intensifying the fight against waste, spoilage, shortfalls, and other losses of output.

The legal offices of enterprises and organizations are not being used effectively to identify and stop cases of mismanagement; they still are not exerting the proper influence on the situation in this direction.

In order to further strengthen legality in economic relations and increase the role and accountability of the State Arbitration System in this work, the Lithuanian CP Central Committee and the LiSSR Council of Ministers recognized it as necessary to change the State Arbitration System attached to the LiSSR Council of Ministers into the LiSSR State Arbitration System.

The powers of the LiSSR State Arbitration System with respect to legal support for the new conditions of economic activity and strengthening legality and contract discipline have been broadened and it has been given additional rights:

-- at enterprises, institutions, and organizations to check on compliance with the requirements of the law on concluding contracts, performance of obligations, application of property sanctions for mistakes made, and settlement of economic disputes before arbitration, and check the organization and management of this work at ministries and departments; to receive from ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations all standard report information they have on conclusion and performance of contracts; to take reports by responsible officials on steps to eliminate violations of the law in work on concluding contracts and performing obligations;

-- to give managers and other officials at enterprises, institutions, and organizations mandatory orders on eliminating violations of the law on procedures for concluding contracts and pre-arbitration settlement of economic disputes, and on reviewing the issues of bring to material accountability, by established procedures, the persons responsible for damage caused in

connections with violations of the law in economic activity identified by the LiSSR State Arbitration System;

-- to conduct an inspection of the work of arbitration tribunals at the ministries, departments, and other organs that resolve economic disputes and give recommendations on improving them; give the arbitration tribunals of ministries, departments, and other organs that resolve economic disputes mandatory orders on eliminating violations of the law uncovered during inspections, or committed while deciding economic disputes.

It is established that the mandatory orders of State Arbitration organs must be carried out within 10 days and the results reported to the appropriate State Arbitration tribunal.

The LiSSR State Arbitration System is given the right:

-- to publish instructions on questions of applying the law in carrying on contract work at enterprises, institutions, and organizations;

-- to work out and publish, together with the ministries and departments that carry on intersectorial management functions, rules on questions of organizing work to conclude economic contracts.

It is established that the enactments published by ministries and departments on questions of concluding and performing economic contracts are mandatory for other ministries and departments and their subordinate enterprises, institutions, and organizations and are coordinated in advance with the LiSSR State Arbitration System.

The Lithuanian CP Central Committee and the LiSSR Council of Ministers have ordered the LiSSR State Arbitration System and its collegium to restructure their work in conformity with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th Lithuanian CP Congress and to take the necessary steps to improve the style and methods of its activity and increase personnel accountability; to significantly step up their influence on strengthening legality and plan and contract discipline in the economy; to direct special attention to unconditionally ensuring protection of the rights and legally protected interests of enterprises and organizations under conditions of full cost accounting and self-financing; and to intensify economic measures in management and economic activity.

To achieve this it has been proposed to the LiSSR State Arbitration System that it:

-- make full use of the rights given it to ensure legality, good resolutions of economic disputes, and strengthening of contract discipline, but not permitting intervention in the operational activity of ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations;

-- increase the effectiveness of preventive work and improve its coordination with the work of other judicial and monitoring organs, striving to eliminate the causes and conditions that foster legal offenses;

-- broaden ties with the labor collectives of enterprises and organizations to step up the struggle for unconditional fulfillment of contract obligations and increasing the accountability of officials in this, and also to ensure that the hearing of arbitration cases right at the enterprises and organizations has the proper indoctrinational impact;

-- be more principled in posing the questions of bringing responsible persons to accountability for violating plan and contract discipline and for taking disputes to arbitrations without proper grounds;

-- intensify instructional work with the arbitration tribunals of ministries, departments, and other organs that resolve economic disputes and give them more practical help in organizing the hearing of economic disputes and strengthening legality in their work; improve the education of departmental arbitrators;

-- carry out a program of measures to eliminate shortcomings in work with cadres, improve their selection, placement, and indoctrination, and increase the expectations of cadres for irreproachable execution of their service duty. Constantly raise the qualifications of cadres and improve their professional training, especially in the areas of economics and contemporary methods of management and economic activity.

The city and rayon ispolkoms are commissioned to:

-- ensure unconditional compliance with the law by enterprises, institutions, and organizations in economic activities in their territory, strengthen working ties and cooperation between the LiSSR State Arbitration System and economic management organs to strengthen plan and contract discipline, the economic independence of enterprises, and protect their rights and legal interests; use the capabilities of the economic and legal offices of enterprises and departmental and people's control more widely for this purpose;

-- periodically have sessions of their soviets and their executive committees and standing commissions take reports by economic managers on the state of legality in economic relations and the work being done by them to strengthen legality, viewing this activity as an important means of effecting an increase in production efficiency.

It is suggested that the ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations, on the basis of materials received from State Arbitration organs, work out and implement concrete measures to step up the struggle against violations of the laws on preservation of socialist property, mismanagement and waste, production of poor-quality output, and other violations of legality in economic activity and inform State Arbitration organs of the measures being adopted; take steps to stop ungrounded submission

of economic disputes for arbitration; prevent economic managers from evading independent decisions and from being litigious in concluding and carrying out contracts and in pre-arbitration settlement of disputes; strengthen the legal service, significantly intensify its impact on the state of legality and plan and contract discipline, and fill existing legal consultant staff schedules with qualified and energetic employees.

The LiSSR State Arbitration System, the LiSSR Procurator's Office, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the LiSSR Supreme Court, and the LiSSR People's Control Committee are commissioned to improve coordination and increase the effectiveness of joint work in the prevention, stopping and elimination by legal means of violations of plan and contract discipline, cases of departmentalism and local prejudice, and to intensify the protection of socialist property, ensure economy and thrift, eliminate losses, and strengthen cost accounting and legality in the activity of enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

The Lithuanian CP city and rayon committees should give practical assistance to organs of the State Arbitration System in strengthening legality in the activity of enterprises, institutions, and organizations, bearing in mind that the State Arbitration System, like other judicial organs -- the court, procurator's office, and justice and internal affairs organs -- is expected to meet important challenges of strengthening socialist legality and giving legal support to restructuring and accelerating the republic's socioeconomic development.

The Lithuanian CP Central Committee and the LiSSR Council of Ministers demanded a stronger response to cases of mismanagement and abuse of position, departmentalism and local prejudice, violations of contract discipline, and other unlawful acts identified by State Arbitration organs and that economic managers and other officials who do not take prompt steps to eliminate such violations of legality be held strictly accountable.

11176

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AzSSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS LOOKS AT FIRST-QUARTER RESULTS

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 11 Apr 87 p 2

[Azerinform report: "In the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers held a meeting on 9 April during which it examined the results of fulfilling the State Plan for Economic and Social Development and the State Budget of the Azerbaijan SSR in the first quarter of 1987, measures to improve money circulation in the republic, and the loan and cash account plans of the USSR Gosbank pertaining to the Azerbaijan SSR in the second quarter of 1987.

It was noted at the meeting that the laborers of Azerbaijan, who have initiated a broad socialist competition to implement decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 31st Congress of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, fulfilled the quarterly plan and ensured further development of the republic's economy and culture.

The volume of industrial production grew by 5.4 percent in comparison with the plan for the corresponding period of the previous year; compare this with an annual quota of 4.3 percent. Labor productivity increased by 5 percent. The scale of introduction of new equipment and progressive production procedures has increased in the course of reconstruction. The quarterly plan for procurement of animal husbandry products was satisfied, and the productivity of farm animals and poultry was increased. The program for commissioning residential buildings and social and cultural facilities was completed. All forms of transportation fulfilled their traffic plans. The income of the AzSSR State Budget was 101.9 percent of the plan.

It was noted at the same time in the meeting that certain ministries, departments, associations, enterprises and organizations are reconstructing their activity too slowly, they are not ensuring rhythmic production, and they are working below their capabilities. There are still many enterprises that are not reaching their targets in production, labor productivity, profit and other indicators. The Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the Ministry of Light Industry, enterprises of the Gosagroprom, the Aztrubzavod [Azerbaijan Pipe Factory] and other organizations fell seriously behind in fulfilling their product sales plan with regard for deliveries. Adequate measures were not taken to upgrade product quality. Crop care is not organized at an adequate agrotechnical level in a number of rayons, while some

regions missed the optimum time for planting perennial and annual grasses and root crops for feed. Capital construction is being reorganized too slowly. Capital investment and construction and installation plans were not fulfilled. The Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work, the Agropromstroy, Azenergostroy and Aztruboprovodstroy Trusts and other organizations failed their quotas. There are shortcomings in the work of Azzheldoroga [Azerbaijan Railways Administration] and the Ministry of Motor Transport and Highways. The Ministry of Trade, Azerittifak [not further identified], the Baku City Executive Committee, enterprises of the Gosagroprom and other organizations failed to complete the plan for retail commodity turnover and for provision of public services. Budget assets were not assimilated completely.

The AzSSR Council of Ministers ordered the ministries, departments, the Council of Ministers of the Nakhichevan ASSR, the Executive Committee of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and the executive committees of rayon and city councils of peoples deputies to take decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the tasks posed by the 31st Congress of the Azerbaijan Communist Party and by subsequent plenums of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee as a guide in carefully analyzing the results of the first quarter, taking steps to correct the revealed shortcomings, placing all reserves into action, and reinforcing and multiplying the positive results that have been obtained. They were also ordered to reach new heights of quality, ensure unconditional fulfillment and overfulfillment of planned quotas and the pledges adopted by the labor collectives, and to honorably greet the 70th anniversary of Great October.

The Council of Ministers made the following proposals: to initiate the work of reconstruction in its broad social and economic aspects; to implement measures at each level of the national economy's management directed at reconstruction and improvement of work in all spheres and units of the economy in the conditions of wide use of economic methods of leadership and conversion of enterprises and associations to full cost accounting and self-financing; to focus the main efforts on accelerating scientific-technical progress, making full use of the production and scientific-technical potential that has been created, and ensuring rhythmicity of production, growth of labor productivity, and 100 percent fulfillment of delivery obligations documented by signed contracts; to ensure a fundamental turning point in raising product quality, and to organize the work in such a way as to ensure state certification of products; to accelerate conversion of enterprises to two and three shift operation, and to resolve the social issues associated with this; to intensify economization efforts; to activate significantly their efforts to implement the social program; to implement measures to improve the work style and methods and reduce paperwork to necessary amounts.

The Gosagroprom, the Council of Ministers of the Nakhichevan ASSR, the Executive Committee of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and executive committees of rayon councils of peoples deputies were ordered to implement additional measures to reconstruct and improve the economic mechanism in the agroindustrial complex, to force spring planting operations, to turn special attention to cultivating agricultural crops with intensive procedures, and to raise the productivity of farm animals and poultry. Efforts to care for

winter cereal crops must be intensified, and the planting of spring crops must be completed everywhere as soon as possible at a high agrotechnical level. Processing enterprises must accelerate their preparations to receive and process the 1987 harvest.

Construction organizations were asked to improve fundamentally the state of affairs in capital construction, to raise its effectiveness, and to implement measures to reduce the time it takes to erect buildings and hasten their commissioning, devoting special attention to erection of housing and social, cultural and personal service facilities.

Having examined measures to improve money circulation in the republic and the loan and cash account plans of the USSR Gosbank pertaining to the Azerbaijan SSR in the second quarter of 1987, the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers strictly reprimanded executives of the Ministry of Trade, Azerittifak, Gosagroprom, the executive committees of the cities of Baku, Kirovabad and Sumgait, and Agdamskiy, Dzhallilabadskiy, Kazakhskiy, Kusarskiy, Kyurdamirskiy, Lenkoranskiy, Sabirabadskiy, Udzharskiy, Shemakhinskiy and other rayons for serious shortcomings in the status of money circulation and public marketing services; it pointed out the impermissibility of the present situation, and it ordered them to put things right in this highly important issue. A decision adopted on this issue calls for specific measures to correct the revealed shortcomings.

Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Buro member, Chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers G. N. Seidov spoke at the meeting.

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CSO: 1830/440

TAJIK CP OFFICIAL ON NEW CADRES' CHARACTERISTICS, WORK STYLES

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 7 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Yu. Ye. Sukhov, director, Department of Party Organization Work of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee, by Correspondent V. Naumov: "We Need Warriors: Our Interview"; first paragraph is KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA introduction]

[Text] The January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum emphasized that "the decisive criteria by which to evaluate personnel and their political and civic positions are their attitudes toward reconstruction and toward the objectives of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, and their actual efforts in achieving these objectives." Our correspondent interviews Yu. Ye. Sukhov, director of the Department of Party Organization Work of the Tajikistan Communist Party Central Committee, on the problems of selecting and placing executive personnel in Tajikistan.

[Question] Yuriy Yevgenyevich, we sometimes hear the assertion that every decision having to do with personnel carries a risk. If this is so...

[Answer] I can agree with that.

[Question] ...then could you possibly tell us how this risk could be decreased? How do we avoid making the wrong appointments?

[Answer] Those are two entirely different issues. But if we are talking about the risk of making an appointment, it is decreased through preliminary work with personnel. What is it today that causes executives to stumble most often? We are undergoing a process of democratization. This is not a slogan; as was said at the Plenum, it is the essence of reconstruction. It is in the conditions of democratization that many do not know how to work--not only old-timers but even newly appointed personnel. Sometimes it is also difficult to make a decision and ensure its fulfillment. This requires boldness, competency and administrative experience.

There was a time when willful executives were the example. Today things are increasingly more complex. Firmness and persistence are still required of the executive. Demands are still imposed on him as a one-man commander, after all. But now there is something else that is required as well--an ability to seek the advice of other people, to rely on their initiative.

[Question] But this was required previously as well!

[Answer] It was something that was desirable. A person who did not display such traits could have gotten by. It used to be a compliment when we said that a leader was firm and willful--that he would not permit laxity. And we were satisfied with that. This together with the respect characteristically shown in the republic for elders--both in age and in position--made the executive's task simpler.

But work in democratic conditions now requires a different combination of leadership qualities. While in former times the rule was that a willful executive could pursue a certain line through pressure, by subordinating the collective to his will, now the ability to persuade people or to change their minds, to find the right solution with regard for majority opinion, is assuming priority.

The party is pinning its hopes on the creativity of the laboring masses, and in their majority they have already come to understand this. The time of unquestioning subordination has passed. Today we can no longer lead successfully without knowing how to rely on a wide circle of people. No sort of support from above can save the day any more. This is the new thing that reconstruction has introduced into the scale of the criteria used to select candidates for promotion.

[Question] But what has it introduced into the methods of this selection?

[Answer] Some new things have appeared here as well. Though not all that many at the moment. Last year we began working through Komsomol committees to select ten-year graduates--young men and women displaying the qualities of active, inspiring, informal leaders. We simply put them on record. Around 250 individuals have been put under the microscope; brief descriptions of their personalities indicating where their skills lie were written. The idea was to keep them under observation, though unobtrusively. We wanted to know how their development would proceed, how their careers would evolve. We wanted to test them with specific assignments, and to help them shape the needed qualities and shake off the bad ones. We wanted to do this throughout their career--in the brigade, the institute and the army. It stands to reason that this is only the beginning of work with future executives. We are preparing to introduce them into the sphere of active party influence. This will reduce the probability of mistakes even more.

[Question] Are all 250 still on record?

[Answer] No, of course not. There has been some weeding out. Some have dropped out of view out of negligence. Others did not justify our hopes. Sixty persons remain. But after all, this is only the first attempt. There are still many things in the way. As an example there is one phenomenon typical of our republic that makes its influence known. The prospects of promotion barely becomes visible when the mechanism of advancing "one's own"--one's kin, one's neighbors, one's friends, the authority of one's parents--turns on.

[Question] Are these, then, the nascent bureaucrats?

[Answer] Exactly so. There is another difficulty: Those who pass candidates for promotion through the first "sieve" are themselves flawed in many cases, and they do not have the skills of studying people. I am not talking just about the people in the Komsomol rayon committees alone, though I do include them as well. Reconstruction has now affected most levels of executive staff. But let us not close our eyes to the fact that the initial selection--that is, the fate of future executives--is still often in the hands of the old guard, executives who had been promoted in the period "prior to restructuring." They often use their own obsolete yardsticks to determine who will rise and who will not.

[Question] But there are objective criteria, are there not?

[Answer] Yes, there are criteria. They are based on fundamental requirements originating with Lenin--political, working and moral qualities. The hard thing is to determine how fully a given quality is present within the individual, and to assess whether or not it is present to a sufficient degree. This decision can be made only by a well-trained worker. But you must understand that this is not what is most important. The needed aspects of the personality must be developed. This is where the essence of work with a reserve lies. We the party workers are now forming our reserve out of executive material that is being prepared through a natural process, without our active influence. And this natural process is long, it rarely produces the best material, and it does not permit us to widen the basis for selection.

This is why one of the important things in reconstruction of personnel work is to reveal incipient leadership qualities at as early an age as possible. So that we could help them to develop in those in whom they are discovered--in the same way that the incipient creativity of the musician, the artist and the poet is developed.

[Question] Would election of executives make it easier to avoid personnel errors?

[Answer] No single answer would hardly be valid in such a complicated issue. On one hand open discussion of candidates and providing many people the possibility for speaking out can decrease the probability that some negative aspects of the personality of the nominee would remain obscured. Moreover such elections have a great educational influence upon all who participate, including the candidate executive.

Wide democratic elections can be recognized without reservations as being useful in application to party and soviet workers. Active party members participate in such elections; they are prepared ideologically and politically, and they maintain more or less mature expectations of the candidate. The same pertains for example to the case where workers elect their brigade leader, and even their shop chief. If such meetings are

prepared for adequately, and if the people have a complete understanding of who the candidates are and of the functions they are to perform, the objectivity of such elections cannot be doubted.

It is another thing when workers are invited, for example, to elect their director. There are different kinds of people in the election hall, and most simply do not have the capacity for judging whether a candidate has the qualities necessary of an executive at this level. It is hard to avoid subjectivity and the tendency to make decisions on the basis of personal predilections in such a case.

But we need to develop election practices--on the basis of openness and constant explanatory work. We need to widen the composition of the active part of the collective. We need a transition from quantity to quality. For the most part, the laboring masses do make reasonable judgments. Our goal is to interest everyone in stating their opinions, and to encourage communication, debate, and not only discussion but also analysis of candidates.

This is an important point: We must find those forms of preparation and elections which would prevent subjective passions, formal criteria and stereotype from gaining the upper hand. The best resource we have here is, once again, openness.

[Question] But it sometimes happens that the collective is unhealthy, as it is said. Conservative, egoistic tendencies are strong within it. What do we do in that case?

[Answer] The party organizations and active party members must not yield their positions. Compromises could only be harmful here. Healthy elements have to be revealed, and then the entire collective must be led to the correct decision, relying on these elements and helping them.

The situation where the people of an isolated village are under the influence of the views of informal leaders is typical of our republic. These leaders are often religiously predisposed people. Everyone in the village knows that to oppose them means to make one's life more complicated. Such an atmosphere usually evolves wherever the voice of the party organization is inaudible, wherever the influence of communists is weak. In this situation the active party member or the deputy is preoccupied with his own fate. He may be an active party member today, and consequently in a somewhat protected position, but what about tomorrow? What if something happens and he is not reelected?! Caution often assumes priority. This is why it is difficult sometimes to fight influential persons (not in the best definition of this term), persons elected by no one and standing behind the scenes, but alas enjoying strong positions.

Such forces often shape and indoctrinate executive personnel correspondingly. I recall a village in Fayzabadskiy Rayon where there were only two communists, and neither had a voice in local affairs. When we took them into the party we hoped that they would have a party influence, that they would be able to

weaken the influence of religiously predisposed people upon the population. But they were unable to wrest themselves from this influence of the zealots of ancient commandments.

Widening openness, self-management and election practices means activating the struggle against forces lurking in the shadows. They are not interested in public control: They stand guard over their own welfare, which is sometimes rooted in not the purest motives. Healthy forces must not succumb to weakness, they have no right to do so. They must recognize that a struggle is proceeding, and that it needs its warriors.

[Question] And not only in the village!

[Answer] At all levels of leadership. What, after all, is the principal source of personnel errors? It is the absence of fighting qualities in officials. And these qualities must be developed purposefully. How? Only through real life, in collisions with the forces of evil. A fighting character is not born in institutions, in paperwork. It was not that long ago--in late 1985--that E. Bogush was elected chairman of the Kurgan-Tyube City Executive Committee. He was known to be a competent leader, and other positive qualities were evident as well. He was known to have some weaknesses, but a conscious risk was taken. What was not considered was that he had never been tested in direct collisions. And this had an effect later on. He could not oppose pressure through the firmness of his own position, he got into deep water, and the weight of his office dragged him down. He has already managed to earn two party reprimands for his mistakes.

Here is another example. Early last year the buro of the Kulyab Oblast Party Committee recommended G. Avzalov for the position of first secretary of the Voseyskiy Rayon Committee, but as early as October that same buro fired him, entering a strict reprimand on his party card. Sometimes executives of a rather high level, including oblast committee secretaries, say that the classical criteria must be applied strictly, and yet when it comes to evaluating a particular person, they make compromises if they know that he does not have what the position takes. They knew, after all, that Avzalov had not been tempered by aggressive party work, that he had not been tested in difficult conditions. In such cases the evaluation often boils down to the opinion that the individual is supposedly a good person. But the question is, for whom is he good?

[Question] For "his own," obviously!

[Answer] Exactly so! This is a unique feature in the personnel problems of the republic: hypertrophied manifestation of local interests and ties of kinship, protectionism. Once Yavanskiy Rayon Party Committee Secretary S. Yeftakova ordered the secretary of the primary party organization to take her brother into the party. Now she is an ex-rayon committee secretary and an ex-communist. Former chairman of the Tursunzade City Executive Committee Sh. Tadzhibayev openly dragged his relatives into the party staff. Many children of highly placed workers who do not feel it reprehensible to make a few phone calls and pull a few strings are working in the staffs of the ministries and

republic organs. Such ways mold the consciousness, the convictions of people, and this consciousness perceives the process of formation of an elite as something justifiable today.

[Question] Many executives who have compromised themselves or who have been unable to do their work have recently been displaced. But someone had recommended them, and promoted them. Are these people still pulling the strings in the background?

[Answer] Not any more. We have begun our fight against such irresponsibility. A large number of party workers, including first secretaries, have been fired. For example Kurgan-Tyube City Party Committee First Secretary Kh. Sadullayev actively promoted morally questionable persons unworthy of being executives to executive posts. He was strictly punished. The demands and the conclusions of the Central Committee concerning this issue will only become harsher.

[Question] Yuriy Yevgenyevich, many new personnel assumed leadership positions following the 22d Congress of the Tajikistan Communist Party and the 27th CPSU Congress. Are there any among them who were wrongly appointed--except the example you have already given?

[Answer] There have been other disappointments as well. But I would say that on the whole, this is a group of morally healthy, energetic and politically mature workers.

[Question] Could you describe those of them who have proven themselves especially well?

[Answer] No, that would be a hard thing to do right now. To speak frankly, we have been too busy to generalize the positive experience, though such experience does exist. We have so much yet to do! And it may be possible that we do in fact lack balance in our efforts.

[Question] Could it be that caution in relation to the fully natural shortcomings of novices is also operating here?

[Answer] Of course. This is a difficult time, and as you noted earlier, the risks are higher. Sometimes we look too hard at new personnel. Shortcomings are a topic of heightened interest. It may be that sometimes we even fear showing ourselves to be out of step with the times, indifferent and uncritical. This is obviously not entirely proper.

[Question] What do you see as the principal task of these new workers?

[Answer] Not only their task but also that of most party personnel: working with personnel seriously and professionally themselves. Every work day of the party committee secretary must begin with an analysis of the personnel situation. And these problems must be dealt with not in breaks between business concerns, but on priority.

If we could reach this objective, we would no longer need to keep back-ups or substitutes to take the place of those whom we select for executive positions.

NAZI MASSACRE OF ITALIAN POW'S ON SOVIET TERRITORY RECOUNTED

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Yu. Shitov, special Belorussian News Agency correspondent, Vitebsk Oblast: "Treachery"; first two paragraphs are SELSKAYA GAZETA introduction]

[Text] Not far from the city of Glubokoye, in Borok Tract, stands a memorial complex. It was erected at the site of mass executions of Soviet POWs from the Berezvechye death camp and residents of the city and surrounding villages by the fascists. The remains of over 27,000 Soviet people--sacrifices to fascism--rest in the fraternal graves. The inscription on the monument declares that the remains of 200 Italian citizens interned by the Germans lie in Belorussian soil together with the sons and daughters of our motherland.

Recent publications on reprisals against Italian servicemen who refused to fight on the side of the fascists in Lvov have jolted the people's memories. Sixty-two year old Petr Ignatyevich Kolontay, who lives in the village of Stanuli a few kilometers from Glubokoye, also read about these things in Ukrainian newspapers and in the article "They Shot Them in the Back" in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI.

"The Germans came to Glubokoye in July 1941," he said. "A death camp was established 3 kilometers from the city, in the village of Berezvechye, within the very first months of occupation, and they herded tens of thousands of Soviet POWs there. A bare patch of ground was encircled with barbed wire. At first the people were kept there beneath the open sky. Hundreds died here daily from cold, hunger, disease and back-breaking work.

"The Italians appeared in the camp in January 1944. Many of them, close to a thousand. Locals were kept from the camp, but we youngsters sometimes managed to sneak in closer. People said that Italy had dropped out of the war and that the fascists were taking revenge on their former allies for this. The Italians were happy, friendly people, and at first it seemed that they did not take their position seriously. If they only knew then what the German butchers had prepared for them! A week later many of the Italians could barely walk. The fascists forced them to work from morning until night, and they held them in strict isolation from Soviet POWs, fearing that their anti-

German leanings might be intensified by such proximity. But even so, 'Hitler--kaput!' was one of the 'German' phrases the Italian prisoners liked using the best.

"Besides the separate Italian barracks in Berezevchye camp," Petr Ignatyevich Kolontay continued, "there was another Italian prison camp near the village of Orekhovno. There were around 200 persons there. At that time the fascists were building a defense line in the vicinity of Glubokoye. Italian POWs from this separate camp and inhabitants of nearby villages were forced to do the heavy earth work. In the last stage, construction was carried on only by the Italians; local residents were kept away in the fear that information about the defenses might leak out to the partisans. The Red Army began its offensive in summer 1944. Glubokoye was liberated on 3 July. Several days prior to this the fascists began covering the tracks of their crimes."

"In those days," Kolontay recalls, "the invaders acted especially savagely. There was no mercy for anyone. German soldiers let it out that they had left the Italians behind in the camp in order to lay mines at the ammunition dumps. On 3 July an explosion of terrible force occurred in the woods where the artillery dumps were located, followed by another one. The shock shattered the windows of homes in nearby villages. A few hours later our units broke through to Glubokoye. There was not a single Italian in the camp near Orekhovno."

What happened in those woods, entangled in barbed wire and riddled with bunkers? There was no mention of any kind of evacuation of the Italians in army intelligence reports, in information possessed by the partisans or in the stories of local residents. But there was evidence of another nature--stories of annihilation of Italian prisoners by Germans in the last days and even in the last hours before fleeing. In the words of Petr Ignatyevich Kolontay, one evening not long before the arrival of the Red Army people saw several trucks carrying Italian prisoners in the direction of sand quarries in the fortified zone. They heard machinegun fire. Then the vehicles came back empty. When the Germans demolished the dumps, unexploded shells were scattered over a large area, including in the quarry zone. For a long time after the war this region was felt to be mortally dangerous. Local resident Ivan Stepanovich Germanovich worked in the army bakery in the village of Lavrinovka, across from the Italian POW camp. He remembers well that they continued to work all the way up to 1 July. Then they disappeared without a trace on 3 July after the explosion in the forest. They were never moved out of there. In the words of another local resident, Mikhail Vasilevich Rusak, a mathematics teacher in the city's Secondary School No 3, the first Italian prisoners appeared in the vicinity of Glubokoye in fall 1943. They were forced to build storage dumps, and their rations were almost nonexistent. Dozens of Italians died of starvation. In June 1944 rumors spread among the people that they had been shot.

Also deeply convinced that the fascists annihilated several thousand Italians in the vicinity of Glubokoye in 1943-1944 is Mikhail Petrovich Cherepkovskiy, director of the Party Organization Work Department of the Glubokoye Rayon Party Committee. He has made it his task to seek out people who remember the details of the fascist occupation of Glubokoye. The party rayon committee has

proposed organizing efforts this year to clarify the specific circumstances behind the death of the Italian prisoners of war in the city and its environs and to pinpoint the places where they were buried. Obelisks will then be erected at those places.

Not all captured documents have been inspected yet, and not all testimony of witnesses has been recorded. But many things are known. The fascists brought the Italian prisoners to Glubokoye in rail cars. This began soon after the Wehrmacht main command published its special order of 15 September 1943 foreseeing that Italian soldiers who refused to fight on Hitler's side would be treated as POWs. Those who offered active or passive resistance to the German measures were to be shot.

Here is a passage from materials of an extraordinary state commission: "In winter they could barely keep up with carrying the bodies of the dead out of Berezvechye camp and dropping them off a cliff onto the ice of the lake behind the monastery. The bodies were piled in the yard. At night the lower layer froze to the dirt, and as they were removed, the bodies were torn apart. The Germans buried their victims in a pine forest beyond the lake. Italians were also buried in huge trenches at the edge of this cemetery. The Nazis were especially brutal during their retreat. In Glubokoye they led six Italians into the church's chapel and shot them there. To conceal their crime they burned the chapel down. Local residents buried the remains."

Here is a passage from a report of the chief of staff of a certain partisan detachment of the "People's Avengers" Brigade imeni Voronyanskaya Command: "More than a thousand prisoners of war, the bulk of whom were Italians, arrived at Parafyanovo Station, a couple of dozen kilometers from Glubokoye, on 12 January 1944."

Here is a message written by signalmen of the Partisan Brigade imeni Suvorov from Glubokoye: "The treatment of Italian prisoners is very poor, and mortality among them is high, elicited by poor nutrition and an unaccustomed climate. Hungry and beaten with sticks, the Italians are dying daily by the dozens. Local residents say that the Italian prisoners ate grass, they were so tormented by hunger."

We know from archival German documents that German troops interned and imprisoned 749,000 Italian servicemen after Italy's surrender. There were around 10,000 of them just within Belorussian territory between late May and early June 1944. Documents and eye-witness accounts indicate that Italian enlisted men and officers were imprisoned in 1943-1944 in concentration camps located in Minsk, Bobruysk, Baranovichy, Borisov, Glubokoye, Molodechno, Grodno, Vileyka, Volkovysk, Polotsk, Tolochina, Lida, Lunints, Parafyanovo and other places in Belorussia.

In 1983-1985 Glubokoye was visited by Giovanni Miluolo, who was the Italian ambassador to the USSR at that time. He laid wreaths at the monument erected at the place where his compatriots lay buried. This story was carried by several Italian newspapers.

Recently under the pressure of the Italian public the Roman procuracy and the defense ministry have begun investigating the circumstances behind the death of the Italian servicemen who were in Lvov in 1943. Articles in the Italian and Soviet press encouraged this to happen. It was revealed that Roman Krechkovskiy, a trolley bus driver in Lvov, had pointed out a previously unknown location where Italians had been shot. As a result of the work of the extraordinary state commission and subsequent research, the world came to know of the mindless scale of the atrocities and treachery of the Nazis.

Some people in the West have tried to raise doubts in relation to these facts, to distort them, and to silence the truth of the real countenance of fascism and the forces it generates, and they are still trying to do so now. But it was in fact with the knowledge of the German high command that thousands of former allies of the Third Reich were deliberately annihilated in Belorussia, in the Ukraine and in Poland for refusing to fight on Hitler's side. Are all Italians aware that these were not the victims of "war against the Bolsheviks and of ferocious cold," but rather the hostages of fascism? The truth about the past war must be known, so that something like it would never be repeated again. The list of crimes of the German butchers is not yet complete. Every new item of evidence is yet another line in this list, yet another warning.

11004

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ROUNDTABLE SESSION REVEALS UNEVEN SUCCESS OF ATHEIST PROPAGANDA

Dushanbe AGITATOR TADZHIKISTANA in Russian No 2, 1987 pp 10-16

[Report of Round Table Discussion by special correspondents Tesha Radzhab and Yuriy Magel under the rubric "Reason Versus Religion": "Aggressiveness is the Important Element!"]

[Text] The innovative policy line worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress has created exceptionally favorable opportunities for a significant improvement in the effectiveness of ideological operations. As was noted at the Congress, there are serious shortcomings in the area of ideology. These include the well-known gap between propaganda and actuality, elements of scholasticism and passive meditation, and the fact that what is taught in words far from always correlates with what is taught in deeds. The decisions of the Congress require that ideological-educational work at all sectors overcome such shortcomings as aimless verbosity, formalism, didacticism, unconcern about manifestations of hostile ideology, and tolerance of relics of the past in the conscience and psychology of the people. This in its entirety fully applies to the very important area of ideological activity which is the atheistic education of the workers.

The new edition of the CPSU Program stipulates that "the party will use every means of its ideological influence for the broad propagation of a scientific-materialist world outlook and for overcoming religious prejudices...While giving its support for the rigorous observance of the constitutional guarantee of freedom of worship, the party condemns attempts to use religion for purposes detrimental to society and the individual."

Serious concern about this area of work was expressed in speeches from the rostrum of the 20th Tajikistan CP Congress. This subject was more specifically treated in the report of First Secretary of the Tajikistan CP K. M. Makhkamov at the meeting of the republic's ideology collective in August 1986. "In recent years," he emphasized, "the level of religiosity in the republic has increased markedly as a result of a slackening of scientific-atheistic work and a definite underestimation of its importance."

In analyzing the reasons for the resultant situation, the speaker drew a conclusion that is of fundamental importance to each activist engaged in ideological work: "We have not yet organized a genuinely systematic,

skillful, planned set of operations designed for atheistic education of the public, and a weakening and neutralization of the clergy's influence."

The materials of the meeting, the conclusions and evaluations made at the meeting as well as specific practical recommendations will arm the party committees with a detailed program for the restructuring of all links in atheist propaganda. Those materials also call upon workers to seek contemporary forms of organizational and mass-political work, and demand that this work be approached scientifically, with purposefulness and aggressiveness.

The ways and means of achieving these goals were also discussed at a round table meeting organized at the initiative of the editors at the Kurgan-Tyube obkom of the Tajikistan CP. Participating in that discussion were party, Soviet, and Komsomol workers, scholars, lecturers, agitators, teachers, cultural and education workers, and journalists, in short, representatives from the categories of the ideological aktiv that are most directly involved in the resolution of the problem under discussion.

The introductory remarks to the meeting were made by Secretary of the Kurgan-Tyube party obkom M. Rakhimova:

"The party line policy aimed at a decisive restructuring of all links in ideology work utterly and completely applies to atheist propaganda. The meaning of that propaganda is that we must always keep a real human being in mind in everything we do and be able to find the only correct and true way to that person's thoughts and heart. Surely, we know that today's believer is not the same person we were dealing with only yesterday, it seems. However, at time we have been carrying out our work with them in the same way as we did 10 and 20 years ago. Is that not why the results of our efforts have often turned out to be so deplorable? The task of primary importance for us now is to rid our operations of aimless, routine work and call a halt to the craze for percentages. Here, the obkom has made some specific steps forward.

The composition of our atheist cadre has been reexamined. This work has now been entrusted to persons who, it seems to us, are capable of resolving that task in the spirit of contemporary requirements, and a system of providing them with essential knowledge and practical skills is being organized.

All party committees and their ideology institutions now have specific plans for atheist operations. There has been noticeable assistance in this matter from the means of mass information and propaganda, and particularly the oblast newspapers.

Efforts to implement Soviet customs, traditions, and rituals have become more active. Take the cemeteries, for example, It is no secret that until recently they have been almost everywhere managed by church confessors, and at times simply by "shady individuals." The situation is changing now. The cemeteries are being put in order and funeral arrangements are being turned over to the domestic services enterprises, and explanatory work is being undertaken with the population. The party and Soviet bodies of the

Kolkhozabadskiy and Dzhilikulskiy rayons are the most active in that respect. And one must say that the measures that are being undertaken are being supported by the public everywhere.

Understandably, there are still many problems to be solved in this direction. It is particularly important to create the material-technical base that is essential to the operation of ritual services organizations.

Of course, the items I discussed here are only a small part of the considerable work that is being done today in all the rayons of the oblast. And the local Soviets are proving to be our active assistants..."

S. Abdurakhimova, deputy chairman of the Kurgan-Tyube oblispolkom:

"The local Soviets, chosen by the people, believe it their duty to assist in every possible way the implementation of the constitutional principles underlying our work with the believers. More active work is being undertaken by commissions on the observance of laws governing religious cults and on the introduction of new customs and rituals as well as by women's soviets, neighborhood soviets, soviets of elders, and other public organizations. But that is only one aspect of the matter. The other aspect is to work for a more rapid development of the entire social sphere, particularly in the rural areas, and to facilitate a constant growth in the cultural level of rural residents as well as in their labor and public activity. It is clear that the sooner these problems are resolved, the firmer will be the foundation for overcoming religiosity in all of its manifestations.

"The focus of our special attention are the so-called 'sacred places.' There are not that many of them in the oblast. That task would be all the more realizable in each specific case if we were to convert those places into a cultural recreation area or if we could convincingly demonstrate and prove that the blind faith in the 'sanctity' of these places has no basis whatsoever..."

T. Radzhabov, chief editor of the journal AGITATOR TADZHIKISTANA:

"Our task is really a serious one. But aren't we being too slow in resolving it? The Chiluchorchashm spring in the Shaartuzskiy Rayon, a popular pilgrimage site for the believers of the Vakhsh Valley, was singled out as an example at the August meeting of the ideology aktiv. Unfortunately, it continues to be in a neglected condition, although with relatively little expense and effort it could become a tourist site and a cultural recreation base..."

S. Abdurakhimova: "You are right. The solution to that problem has been inexcusably delayed. We are now working on that topic in earnest with all the organizations that have an interest in that project.

Unfortunately, our scholars, and particularly the branch instructors of the Dagestan State Pedagogical Institute imeni T. G. Shevchenko, have not yet shown any initiative in such projects as the preparation of historical reference guides on the origin of other "sacred places" such as the burial

grounds "Khodzha Gul-Gum" in the Vakhshskiy Rayon, "Kiyekboy" in the Kumsangirskiy Rayon, "Zaynulobiddin" in the Dzhilikulskiy Rayon, and "Gul-Chekak" in the Ilyichevskiy Rayon. Surely, that kind of material would be very helpful in casting out the false halo of "sanctity" from these most conventional burial grounds."

S. Koshonov, acting head of the Department of Marxist-Leninist Philosophy at the Kurgan-Tyube branch of the Dagestan State Pedagogical Institute imeni T. G. Shevchenko, and atheist lecturer:

This kind of work has been undertaken in the oblast, but, unfortunately, it was not brought to completion. The establishment of a strong branch of the Institute of Scientific Atheism of the Academy of Social Sciences in our republic would be helpful in increasing the contribution scholars could make toward the formation of a scientific-materialist world outlook. The oblast has the essential scholarly resources, including 30 candidates and one doctor of sciences who could become actively involved in carrying out that work. The Leninist appeal to place all atheistic propaganda on a scientific basis has never been more urgent. However, it is no secret that studies on the degree to which religion is practiced are being conducted in an unsystematic manner, and the results of those studies often remain hidden behind the family of publishers, even from oblast level leaders..."

M. Rakhimova: "Unfortunately, that is so."

S. Koshonov: "Then one might well ask: For whom and why are those studies being undertaken if their results cannot be utilized by the organizers of atheistic operations? Of course, research is extremely important, but in each case it is important that there is some realistic benefit derived from research."

We must give some basic thought to the training of atheist lecturers. Otherwise we shall repeatedly come up against the paradox wherein the lecturers assert that there is no God, but are unable to prove that point clearly and convincingly, whereas the clergy assert that there is a God, and are able to win over people to their side by skillfully employing emotional factors, and by exploiting the psychological makeup of persons or some particular circumstances of their lives. That is the problem we should be thinking about!"

A. Khakimov, secretary of the Kolkhozabad party raykom:

"In analyzing the state of affairs in this area of work, we in the raykom have come to the conclusion that religiosity is being revived and gaining strength in those places where party organization efforts have been feeble and sluggish and where the party organizations prefer to sit on the sidelines in a "defensive" posture rather than go on the offensive in full force."

The restructuring of this work was begun with the raykom's ideology commission. The commission created a section headed by Khaydarov, a universally respected person and veteran of the Great Fatherland War. These kinds of sections were organized in all the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the

rayon. With increasing confidence they are taking over the supervision of wedding and funeral ceremonies and are striving to make sure that the prevailing tone at these rituals is common sense and not homage to outmoded customs. Our activists are exerting an increasingly perceptive influence on the organization of leisure time at the public tea-houses. And there is one more important factor: We demand that each supervisor be strictly responsible not only for the plan, but for the state of ideology operations in his own collective.

We have already mentioned the fact here that we have firmly set out to put order into the ceremonial services which will soon be placed into the hands of the rayon personal services combine (KBO). Today, all of the other rayons are also engaged in this endeavor. But, unfortunately, some local areas do not yet have methodological recommendations pertaining to these problems that are suitable both for the republic as a whole and for its principal regions. Is any there any sense in taking up this task independently when there are already organizations in the republic that could resolve this problem more skillfully and competently?"

N. Idrisov, director of the scientific-methodological center of the oblispolkom's Administration for Culture:

"Such recommendations are on hand and we have distributed them to the rayon departments of culture. However, in the first place, many other rayon institutions should also have those recommendations, and in the second place, they were prepared several years ago and are in need of revision. Our center has been regularly sending various methodological materials on atheist education to the local areas, but far from all of those places use them in their work. Consequently, the atheistic dynamics of many of the mass cultural measures remains at a low level, even if there is much available to accomplish our goals, such as films, books, museum exhibits, stage and interlude presentations by amateur groups on atheist themes. Finally, there are dozens and hundreds of meritorious, respected persons, war and labor veterans, who could speak before young people on subjects directly or indirectly related to atheism."

Comment from the audience: "Why aren't all those resources being used?"

"They are being used, but not nearly enough. The work is being impeded by a lack of systematic operations and poor coordination of our efforts with all of the ideology institutions."

Editors' information: According to scholars of the republic's Academy of Sciences who have undertaken studies in the Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, the youth discotheques and disco clubs have remained aloof from atheist efforts. So far there has been no room in those places for debates, interesting meetings, and discussions dealing with atheism, not to mention special programs employing graphic arts, music, film, and theater. Consequently, the most active form of atheist education -- the graphic, emotional-spectacle, has not yet become a tool for the organizers of leisure time in the struggle against religious relics of the past.

M. Rakhimova: "A key role in the development of atheist work belongs to the party committees of the farms..."

I. Saidov, party committee secretary of the kolkhoz "Communism" of the Kommunisticheskiy Rayon:

"We understand that very well. First of all, together with the village Soviet we analyzed what resources we have available. We found, for example, that within the quarter Soviets there are people who are susceptible to religion. Instead of those persons, we elected others upon whom we can really rely. Our principal thrust was on individual work with believers. All the members of the party committee and each farm supervisor were involved in that undertaking.

We are actively engaged in the development of the social sphere. We are trying to provide each sector of the kolkhoz with its own club, and we have introduced free kindergarten care. We are getting ready to open a people's theater and music school. All of these endeavors constitute weighty arguments in our dispute with the clergy.

Of course, there are still many unresolved problems. For example, I recently attended a meeting of parents at the secondary school No. 54. Only the fathers showed up. Where were the mothers? The problem, of course, goes beyond the range of one specific school. And who can guarantee that such phenomena are not the result of religious influence?"

Z. Muradova, secretary of the Dzhilikul party raykom:

"A quite proper question. Such facts are graphic evidence of miscalculations in our work.

Life experience has compelled us to make some serious adjustments in our plans. First of all, we have tried to consolidate heretofore uncoordinated efforts of individual institutions into a comprehensive plan for atheist operations which will be under our constant control.

I believe we already have some positive results. Good things can be said about the talk journal FIRUZA whose council includes distinguished women of the rayon. They regularly appear at clubs and outdoor gatherings. Issues of the talk journal are accompanied by amateur group concerts, including family music groups. We are also assisted by KBO personnel who handle all kinds of requests. The response to this new form of work has been good and we shall be developing it further without neglecting, of course, the other areas of our activity.

M. Rakhimova: "The kishlak and settlement Soviets and the community in the residential areas also can and must play a significant part in the struggle against religious prejudice."

Sh. Mavlyanova, chairperson of the kishlak Soviet Aral of the Kuybyshevskiy Rayon:

"We have gained some experience in that kind of work. Several years ago the party and soviet organizations at the Aral district of the kolkhoz imeni Lenin held a rural assembly whose participants included elder citizens, the community women, and representatives of the neighborhood councils. The assembly unanimously adopted an appeal to all of the rayon's inhabitants to undertake a decisive struggle for a healthy way of life, to overcome religious relics of the past as well as harmful customs and rituals. The appeal was approved by the buro of the Kuybyshev party raykom and published in the rayon newspaper.

Today we are fully convinced that the initiative we have taken was necessary and useful. Our experience demonstrates that well organized efforts by the community can be of real help to the party organs and the local Soviets in the important and difficult task of overcoming religious prejudices and the introduction of Soviet ritual as well as raising the quality of life."

Editors' Information: Unfortunately, far from all the party and soviet organizations of the rayons and oblast have supported by deeds the initiative of the Aral residents, and many have exhibited passivity and indifference. Consequently, a good initiative essentially died because of the lack of followers.

M. Rakhimova: "Upon entering into our confrontation with religion, we first of all are fighting for the hearts and minds of the young people..."

F. Musovirov, secretary of the Kurgan-Tyube Komsomol Obkom:

"That is in fact true. But, unfortunately, far from all the Komsomol activists understand that. Frequently they simply don't know how, where, or with whom they should be working. Many of them look at it this way: Now that I am a Komsomol member and atheist, what else is necessary? What is necessary is to propagate atheism and multiply our ranks by every possible means! In the meantime, some of our activists are afraid even to appear at places where believers gather, assuming, they think, that there would be nothing for them to do there. It is this kind of impotence combined with an ignorance of the scientific principles of atheism that makes it difficult for our workers to carry atheism to the masses not by words but by deeds, and to struggle to reach the young people who have become entangled in religion.

So far we have been unable to make effective use of the available club institutions. This means we are weakening the activity of all cultural-educational operations, including our atheist work.

No small part in this matter is played by formalism. For example, there are many young atheist groups in the general education schools, but they do not yet have a program of activities. We are now attempting to fill that gap in concert with the oblast Society for Knowledge, although it is clear that this

is a matter that should have been taken care of by the appropriate republic organizations, particularly the Ministry of Education and the Republic House of Scientific Atheism."

M. Rakhimova: "I would like to return to the problem about our Komsomol aktiv's poor knowledge about questions dealing with atheism and religion. This is a serious omission on the part of the Komsomol obkom. The problem requires a detailed analysis, followed by recommendations.

Editors' Information: According to the results of a survey conducted by the scientific atheism section of the Department of Philosophy at the Tajik SSR Academy of Sciences, 16.8 percent of the 375 students questioned at the pedagogical and medical schools of Kurgan-Tyube said they were believers, while 39.5 percent didn't know what category they belonged to, i.e., they are waverers. Now that is surely something for the Komsomol obkom and others to think about!

L. Saburova, literature teacher at secondary school No. 7 in the city of Kurgan-Tyube, and lecturer:

"In speaking about problems in atheist work, one should not forget the schools. The atheistic potential of such academic disciplines as chemistry, physics, biology, history, and literature is truly enormous. It is therefore understandable that we teachers have been entrusted with the responsibility of forming steadfast scientific-materialist views on the part of our young people.

Much is being done in this area at the schools of the oblast, including ours. There are young atheist clubs, atheist activity groups and displays have been organized, special bulletin board newspapers are issued, and drawing and composition contests on atheist topics are being conducted. A number of schools are training young atheist lecturers and conduct public defenses of essays that are subsequently presented at various general school events.

Of course, there are still many unresolved problems. Both my fellow teachers and associates at the oblast department of public education are seriously concerned about the fact that the atheist thrust in classroom activity at some schools is almost imperceptible. Surely, each classroom lesson must have its own spark of atheism and help pupils correctly understand the phenomena of nature and society. In that connection, one must not forget that today a child's perception of the world is influenced not only by parents and adults, but the child himself must be capable of becoming our active helper in carrying our work with believer parents, particularly in the rural areas. And surely, will not the child as well as you and us be assisted in this matter by his older brothers and sisters who have graduated from a tekhnikum or VUZ? It seems to me that we do not yet sufficiently appreciate the interconnection between these processes.

It is always with great pleasure that I prepare myself for reader conferences dedicated to the novel by F. Mukhammadiyev "Journey to That World." Books such as this are a wonderful help to us, atheists, and besides, the children show a great interest in the book as well. It's just too bad that the atheist

theme in our literature and in our films has somehow faded in recent years. Obviously, there is something here for our creative unions to think about.

D. Nazarova, teacher at secondary school No. 3 in the city of Kurgan-Tyube, and agitator:

"I recently spoke at the Weaving and Spinning Textile Factory No. 3 where most of the workers are mothers of our pupils. What surprised me was the total indifference shown by the enterprise's supervisors and public organizations toward the atheist education of the workers. This was confirmed by our recent mothers themselves, although some of them would not at all be harmed by this kind of work. What happens is this: Many of us spare no efforts in struggling against religious stupefaction while others take the view that this doesn't concern them at all. Are we going to make any progress if this is the way the situation will continue?"

M. Abdurakhmanov, editor of the newspaper KHAKIKATI KURGONTEPVA:

"In comparison to last year, the number of publications this year has doubled. But that statistic, admittedly, is not exactly something to be happy about. The publications containing memorable materials of keen interest have been few in number, as before.

"Among those works are the notes of the poet Zarif Ibod that were published in June. He shared his bitter thoughts about the lamentable condition of our cemeteries, the long since obsolete rituals that are still dominant there, the enormous unjustified expenditures connected with funeral ceremonies, and other painful problems. The article did not leave the readers indifferent. We received quite a few supportive responses. Unfortunately, there was not a single response from the party committee, the local Soviet, or a managerial organ. Apparently there would have been if the article had been followed by some special instructions to study that material and prepare a report. How long will we continue to respond to articles of pointed interest by merely calling on the phone or writing a letter?

"I am confident that the newspaper could have generated a considerable public response to a discussion of the novel by F. Mukhammadiyev, and then proceeded to discuss other urgent problems of spiritual life.

"Or let us take another example. Not too long ago a highly topical performance based on the play "Crossroads" by N. Tabarov was presented in all the rayons of the oblast. Many people saw the play and it caused many people to think, but that was as far as it went. No spectator conferences, discussions, or debates were organized. Consequently, the atheistic zeal of the play did not elicit the public response that it should have created. This is our loss, and we journalists must share the blame. Thus, let us not add to these losses."

K. Nurulkhakov, senior scientific associate at the Department of Philosophy of the Tajik SSR Academy of Sciences, and candidate of philosophical sciences:

"... And for this each of us must face our practical problems. I have visited

the oblast on a number of occasions, have conducted sociological research here, and I am familiar with the problems that are being discussed today, in my view, as a matter of high principle, and I would like to say this: I think that our most serious attention should be given to providing better atheist training for our party workers. A tremendous amount will depend on it."

"There doesn't seem to any system in the training of the oblast's atheist cadre, and what is most important, there is no continuity in this effort. We often can meet certain people at an oblast seminar on atheism, but a half year later we see completely different people at the republic-level seminar. The mystery is rather simple -- completely random individuals are often sent to participate in 'measures' to be taken.

"We also underestimate the importance of individual work both with believers and their clergy 'mentors.' There should be more meetings in the open public with the clergy or with their charlatan protectors, and I emphasize once again, we should expose their assertions or any of their foolish fabrications in open public meetings.

"We should appropriately examine the materials of the lectures we deliver, scrutinize their quality and determine how conclusive and interesting they are, and for what kind of audiences are they intended. Also the 'geography' of lecture group tours should be scrutinized so that such trips are not limited to the oblast and rayon centers.

"It is also very important to learn how to avoid the bad habit of working in spurts. The mullahs and confessors are constantly propagating their ideas. Why, then, do we atheists frequently act merely from case to case?"

T. Radzhabov: "We have met here today to discuss a very important question, and I believe our discussion today has been successful. I think that we have sensed that greater attention in the oblast is being given to atheist education, that there is a concise understanding of the importance of this work, and that we are firmly resolved to expand the battle front of our struggle against the relics of religion. Furthermore, we are resolved to amplify the efforts of the ideology aktiv and seek new forms and methods for our operations.

"However, the discussions have also shown that the oblast is just at the beginning of the road in many areas of our operations. We have not yet overcome formalism and oversimplification, routine and aimless work methods, the craze for percentages and the wholesale approach of doing things as well as other negative phenomena. We have not yet been able to give our work an integrated and systematic character and we have not yet placed our work on a strictly scientific footing. And in the words of V. I. Lenin what is most essential here are 'maximum tenacity, persistence, and systematic operation.'"

"I believe that all the participants of our round table discussion here as well as our readers will be able to glean from our conversation all that can be valuable in serving the interests of our common cause and use that

information for their own efforts. More importantly, this should enable them to go further and continue the discussions begun here at their own party committees, labor collectives, and places of residence.

"On behalf of the editorial board of the journal and the editorial employees I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of the participants of our meeting for their frank and faithful discussion and wish you success in all of your endeavors and undertakings."

In her concluding remarks, secretary of the party obkom M. Rakhimova thanked the editors for their helpful initiative and all those present for their active participation in the discussions. She felt confident that the business-like conversations that took place will give additional impetus to all of the work being undertaken by the oblast party organization on the restructuring of atheist education for the workers in the light of present-day requirements.

From the editors: Many of the problems raised at the round-table discussion are directly applicable to a number of republic organizations and institutions. The rapid resolution of those problems would in no small way be conducive to greater efficiency and effectiveness in the work currently being done to overcome religious prejudices, to effect a broad propagation of the scientific-materialist concept and the active implementation of new customs, traditions, and rituals.

The editors call these problems to the attention of the republic's Academy of Sciences, the Tajik Komsomol Central Committee, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Consumer Services, the board of the republic's Znaniye Society, the republic House of Scientific Atheism, and other interested departments and organizations. The editors are taking the responsibility of monitoring the resolution of these problems.

6289

CSO: 1830/411

PLAY ON DRUG USE BY ATHLETES DRAWS CROWDS

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 23 Jan 87 p 4

[Article by B. Tukh: "There Is Something to Think About"; first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] Enn Vetemaa's play "The Wind Brought Dust from Olympus" is playing at the Tallinn Academic Drama Theater imeni V. Kingisepp. It is already in its second season and invariably has a full house.

The theme of sports in the theater, just because of the limited expressive capabilities of the stage (compared to film, for example), can only be handled by showing the complexity of the human relations that take shape in and around big-time sports. But performances on sports themes usually have not achieved this. As a result, the reader of sports novels and the audiences of sports films and plays have formed the idea that the world of big-time sports is an absolutely unique world that demands complete self-denial from the athlete in the name of victory in competition; this world is somehow isolated from the ordinary world in which the reader (or viewer) lives, and everything there takes place according to special laws--and the reader (or viewer) can be shown some particular small part of this world.

E. Vetemaa has written a play about the fact that the relations that take shape in big-time sports are built on the very same model as relations in any other sphere of social life, but at the same time sports, with its absolutization of victory and its frequently used formula that "no one judges the winner" (which is really very close to the Jesuit slogan that "the end justifies the means") can serve as a model of all the relations that exist in society. It can disclose these relations. But this goes the other way too society's problems are also reflected in the relations that exist in the sports world.

This is what Vetemaa wrote his play about. And this is what director E. Kharmakyl produced his play about.

There are four characters in the play. Each has a name, but it is simpler to call them by the functions they have in the drama, rather than by name. They are the Woman Athlete, the Coach (and husband of the Athlete), the Biologist (who is a friend of the family), and the Manager-comrade from the Sports

Committee. The director introduces a fifth character, the Girl in an sweat suit. She does not say a word; she just arrives with the Manager at the Athlete and Coach's home. But we can see by the way she walks around the apartment, with a kind of confused familiarity, and how she carefully looks over the trophies won by the Athlete that this girl intends in time to outdo the heroine of the play--and that she will not stop at anything to do so.

The play talks about things that formerly were not acceptable topics. The use of doping. Of course, someone will indignantly hurry to say that all this is the fruit of the author's fantasy, that our athletes are not like that. The playwright has foreseen these objections.

The play was written 18 months ago. In other words, before the "taboo" on the problem of drug addiction was lifted, before the central newspapers ran material on the threatening scope this evil has assumed among us and Ch. Aytmatov's novel "The Chopping Block" was published in NOVYY MIR. But it is not just a question of doping as such. It is the circumstances that compel its use, the fact that the athlete uses forbidden means, often not just on his own initiative. And this is a result of the maniacal dedication, which has put down roots in the sports milieu, of sports bureaucrats to reports on victories achieved under their management. And the devastating effect of doping in the play "The Wind Brought Ashes from Olympus" is a model of that devastating influence which allegiance to appearance, lying, and the gap between words and deeds exerted (and even today sometimes still exerts) on the entire society.

The Athlete (honored actress of the Estonian SSR M. Krenskaya) has recently given up big-time sports because a rival appeared with whom she cannot compete. But then a scandalous incident occurs: on the evening of the same day when she sets a republic record, the rival is arrested at the wheel of an automobile in a completely incompetent state. Examination reveals that this is the result of the abuse of stimulants. The Athlete sees an opening to return to the track; after all, her rival will certainly be disqualified. She demands that the Coach, her husband (actor T. Mikiver), help her in this and at the same time take certain steps to put an end to the disgraced rival once and for all. The Biologist (actor S. Teppart) unsuccessfully tries to preach the principles of "fair play" to his friends. When the Athlete has already almost convinced her husband, the Manager (honored actor of the Estonian SSR A. Orav) appears and explains that their hopes are completely groundless. After all, the "penalized" rival, no matter what else, will certainly win a medal for the republic in the national games, while the "proper" heroine could hardly do so...

The ashes from Olympus are not just doping. They are a critical warning of the incipient destruction of the individual. M. Krenskaya emphasizes in her heroine (who never used doping!) the essential point--vanity reinforced by the same principle: results at any price, for no one judges the winner! The Girl in the sweat suit (the representative of the next generation) has the same disease; she has also imbibed it, is guided by it alone, and knows no other principle.

The director puts the text of the prologue in the mouth of the principal heroine. She gives it in the finale, when the deeds of the one have been smoothed over and the hopes of the others crushed. The prologue sounds, on the one hand, like a consoling addition for that part of the audience who do not like to leave the theater in a state of spiritual discomfort, and on the other hand, as a reminder that the danger of allegiance to appearance and keeping quiet about serious problems has not been overcome, that there are forces that try to conceal instances of moral trouble in society. But we must root out these troubles in all spheres of life. And sports is no exception!

12424

CSO: 1800/494

WEEKLY PUBLISHES EXCERPT FROM NOVEL 'CHILDREN OF THE ARBAT'

Moscow OGONEK in Russian No 11, Mar 87 pp 26-29

[Excerpt from book "Deti Arbata," by Anatoliy Rybakov; first 3 paragraphs are source introduction by author A. Rybakov]

[Excerpt] The content of the novel "Children of the Arbat" conforms to its title. It is above all the story of the lives and fates of several young people who were born and grew up in Moscow, in the Arbat. The fates are different, each one unique, but all together they provide, possibly, an incomplete but, we hope, true group portrait of young men and women of my generation. The desire to reflect the time in all its diversity opened up the framework of the book: from the narrow Arbat streets to the Caucasus, the Urals, and Siberia on the horizontal, and from the workers and students to the highest leaders of the state on the vertical. I did not make anything up; I wrote what I saw and experienced. I arranged true facts in the novel as the plot and the logic of development of the characters demanded. We probably will not accept everything in their thoughts and actions today. But people live according to the laws of their time; it is important that they are not in conflict with the laws common to all mankind.

The time of action in the novel is 1934. The year is complicated, as the 1930's were, years of great upheavals and losses which oppressed the heart, unprecedented enthusiasm, and great tragedies, years which laid the groundwork for our victory in the Great Patriotic War and its many unwarranted victims.

The novel will be published in full in the journal DRUZHBA NARODOV in April-June of this year.

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The largest house in the Arbat is between Nikolskiy and Denezhnyy lanes, now called Plotnik Lane and Vesnin Street. Three eight-story blocks of apartments stand close to each other, and the facade of the first is decorated with white glazed tile. Low vaulted passageways connect the two set-back courtyards.

Arbat girls, Dorogomilovo girls, and girls from Plyushchi were already strolling in pairs near the "Arbatskiy Ars" movie theater, the collars of their dresses carelessly raised, their lips painted, their eyelashes curled,

their eyes dallying expectantly, colored scarves around their necks--spring Arbat chic. The show ended and the audience came out across the courtyard. The crowd squeezed out into the street through the narrow gates where a small flock of teenagers, the long-standing proprietors of these places, was pushing its way too.

Sofya Aleksandrovna waited for the last person in the audience to pass by and went into the courtyard...

Today she had finally managed to get an appointment with the assistant Chief Procurator. "When the investigation is finished, you'll find out the results," an answer she had heard many times and which had been foretold to her this time too.

Oppressed by awareness of her own powerlessness, she returned home to her empty and dark room and there, alone and suffering, she offered up prayers to the God whom she had abandoned long ago, but who remained the God of her ancestors, and prayed that the spirit of goodness and mercy, omnipresent and all-pervasive, would soften the hearts of those who would decide Sasha's fate.

She thought only of Sasha, she was right next to him and knew his every moment and felt his every movement. When her heart ached it meant that he was not well and when she could not sleep--he was lying on the cot with his eyes open experiencing paroxysms of fear--he was being taken to the interrogation and he tormented himself, tossed around in bed, and suffered. She remembered how she had once punished him and he had not let her go to the theater; he cried out of mental rather than physical pain then, she had humiliated the little boy. Now life was beating him.

In the mornings the clank of the mailbox raised her from her bed. She was waiting for the answer from the procurator, a letter from some secret but influential well-wisher, and she was waiting for a letter from Sasha himself which he would have sent with some person--such things happen, they told her... But there were no answers and there were no letters. She pulled out the newspaper and scrutinized Stalin's portrait: modest clothing, kind wrinkles around his eyes, the wise, tranquil face of a man with a clean conscience. He was 53 years old and his son was probably the same age as Sasha, and he had another son and a daughter; he understood what family anguish was--he had lost his wife quite recently. If only Sasha's case would reach him. She put all her hopes on Mark, her brother: he was the chief of an enormous construction project in the East and a favorite of Ordzhonikidze; the entire country knew him; Stalin knew him and received him and talked with him; Mark would tell Stalin about Sasha. And he would like Sasha, you could not help but like Sasha.

But she knew that such hopes were illusory. Mark was not going to talk with Stalin about Sasha. But he talked about Sasha with other highly-placed and influential people. She believed Mark, he did not deceive her and try to reassure her, he did everything he could.

She believed Mark. And more than Mark she believed the women in the prison lines; their truth was higher and more convincing than his truth; everything

was clear, simple, and fair there. These weak women contrived to protect their dear ones, encouraged them with their warmth, and satisfied their hunger with what little they could take from their own sparse rations; they brought them love and hope through the deaf stone walls. There Sofya Aleksandrovna did not feel alone; other mothers shared her anguish. They taught her how to find Sasha, how to arrange delivery of parcels and what to send, where to appeal, and whom and what to write. You had to appeal and write to the very place they advised. In the lines people knew what had to be done if Sasha was convicted and what had to be gotten together, what to take with you and what to send later, and they knew the entire road--this road was the road of life too, and people moved along it as well, and this reassured her more than hopes and promises.

And when the house manager came, Sofya Aleksandrovna was ready for it; they warned her that Sasha's room would be sealed up and that the house manager was obliged to do it, although it was probably unpleasant for him. Sofya Aleksandrovna was afraid only that he would be rude to her out of embarrassment, and in that event she was ready with a special phrase:

"Viktor Ivanovich," she planned to say to him, "if you to talk to me calmly I'll understand you better."

But the house manager was not rude to her.

"That's the way it works, Sofya Aleksandrovna. The time will come when Sasha will come back--we'll unseal it. It's easier for you. That's the way people are--they'll sneak in and you won't be able to scratch them out. Move whatever things you want, I'll send the yardman. And what you don't need, leave--the room is yours."

He gave her to understand that she should not take all the things and Sofya Aleksandrovna herself understood that--while there were things in the room, no one could occupy it on their own. But she refused the yardman's help: he had to be paid and she did not have the money.

She did not clear out the common room where Sasha used to sleep and study, but rather her own small bedroom. She had to take everything she needed out of it and move Sasha's desk, couch, and clothes rack in.

Varya found her doing this work. She quickly took off her coat and began to help. She took the linen from the shelf and put the pillow on top of it; she took this pile in her hands, helping with her chin; it was not comfortable but she still looked at herself when she passed by the mirror.

"You're a vain one," smiled Sofya Aleksandrovna.

Sofya Aleksandrovna enjoyed this girl's help, and the girl enjoyed giving it. She had skill and daring which Sofya Aleksandrovna lacked, especially there in the lines. Varya did not become flustered there like Sofya Aleksandrovna did; she was a child of the streets and she was not afraid of anything or anyone.

Varya would go to the prison early in the morning and take a place in line and stand in the cold and then Sofya Aleksandrovna would arrive and together they would move toward the little window. Sofya Aleksandrovna did not know how to argue and was afraid of making the person sitting at the window angry and was ashamed to hold up the line of tired embittered people who had stood all night in the street along the high, long, cold prison wall. Varya was not shy in front of anyone: she herself had stood in the cold for several hours. They were given a form at the window: last name, first name, and patronymic of the person arrested and his address. Then they stood in line again, turned the form in at the window, and then waited for an answer for 2, 3 hours... "Not here!" And then Varya would ask boldly: "Then where?"... "We don't know..." "And who would know? You took him, you should know..."

Sofya Aleksandrovna sometimes thought that she was perhaps acting unfairly, introducing Varya to this life of hers and to this misfortune of hers, but Varya's sympathy and desire to help was so strong that she could not imagine how to push her away. Ultimately, Sofya Aleksandrovna reassured herself that for Varya all this was a childish thing, immature, transitory, that it would pass quickly and, God grant, be forgotten forever...

"Did you find out anything?" Varya asked.

"Nothing yet," Sofya Aleksandrovna sighed.

"At school we have the same things," Varya said, "they only look for somebody to ruin. Yesterday we had a class meeting and Lyakin said: 'Ivanova writes a cribsheet on her knees.' I stretched out my legs and asked: 'Where's the cribsheet?'"

Varya stretched out her legs to show how she had done it in class.

"And Kuzya, the math teacher, turned as red as a tomato and said, 'Stop it, Ivanova!' But why me? It was Lyakin! He's the one who cheats and then tells on other people. I can't stand people like that!"

These words "class," "meeting," and "cribsheet" were from Sasha's childhood, and Kuzmin, the math teacher, was also from Sasha's childhood and once taught Sasha's class, and Sasha called him Kuzya too...

"But how do you make crib sheets?" Sofya Aleksandrovna asked sadly.

"It's real simple," Varya slapped her knees, "I write in ink [on my knees] and copy it off."

She suddenly caught sight of boots with skates on the shelf behind the suitcase.

"Are these Sasha's skates?"

"Yes, last winter Sasha was looking for them but didn't find them, and it turns out here's where they are. Do you need them?"

"They're too big for me," Varya smiled, "I was just asking... "

But Varya was not just asking about them. The skates reminded her of that first and last evening which she spent with Sasha, almost a year ago.

3

Serafim was a young cadet whom Maks had brought to their house for New Year's. After New Year's Serafim called Varya and arranged to meet her in Arbat Square. She went as a joke, not alone but with Zoya and another girl. Her friends stood on the far side of the street and watched a nice-looking military man go up to Varya and saw them greet each other and start off along the Arbat; the girls walked on the other side and made signs which Varya did not understand and she made signs to them which they did not understand either. Serafim invited Varya to the Red Army House for a dance and they agreed to go there the next Saturday. Then Serafim got on the streetcar and left. The girls came up and they discussed this meeting for a long time and came to the conclusion that Serafim was nice. And when it came out that he had a pass to the Red Army House, he seemed even nicer to them.

Varya reconciled herself to his funny name; one of the Znamenskiy brothers was also named Serafim. Of course he was altogether different from the guys in their courtyard--native Muscovite Arbat boys--he was simple, provincial, shy... But he courted her seriously and that flattered Varya and she felt grown up. And Ninka could not object to the friendship since Serafim was a comrade of her Maksim, and Maksim's comrades could not be bad. She went with Serafim to the Red Army House for dances every Saturday and all her friends envied her.

4

Varya left Sofya Aleksandrovna's late, after they had finished doing everything, although she knew Nina and Serafim were waiting for her at home--they were going to the Red Army House that evening for a military school graduation party.

At home Nina looked at Varya angrily: Serafim had already been languishing on the couch with a book in his hands for an hour. And Nina's look meant: "If you make arrangements with a person, then come on time, I'm not obliged to entertain your suitors... And I don't have time for it."

Varya did not tell her where she had been and why she was late. She would, but later. But in the meantime she told Serafim to go out into the corridor; she had to change clothes.

The mirror hung on the small inside door of the cupboard and Varya opened the door part way in order to stand with her side to the light rather than her back. She took everything off and began to get dressed all over again. And that annoyed Nina; after all, she had on a good dress--she could go in that. And how she pulled on her stocking! Stretched out her leg and stood still and

admired herself! And to walk around the room like that half-dressed, where did she get that, at 16-years of age?!

"I found my shoes in the bathroom today," Nina said, "You know I told you not to take them without permission."

"You weren't home and I didn't have anything to wear so I wore them."

"You put them on, wore them down, and threw them into the bathroom. You don't have enough nerve to admit it."

"But I do admit it. I'll take them to the shoemaker tomorrow and have them fixed."

"Today you pinched some shoes and tomorrow you'll start swiping money."

"I don't need money," Varya answered calmly, again scrutinizing her legs which were at that point already in the shoes.

"Of course," Nina grinned, "what's money to you?! You have nail polish and carrot-colored lipstick on your mind... You're fixing up! Where does your time go? You sit in front of the mirror for hours and curl your eyelashes with a kitchen knife or you hang on the phone all evening... Serafim and I have already been waiting for you for an hour and Maksim called from the Red Army House several times-- he's standing at the entrance with the pass--and you disappear who knows where!"

Varya finally finished dressing, put everything she did not need in the cupboard, and opened the door:

"Come on in, Serafim!"

After putting on her coat, tying a scarf on, and looking at herself in the mirror for the last time, Varya said:

"I was at Sofya Aleksandrovna's; I helped move things. They sealed off Sasha's room."

5

Varya struck a blow at Nina instinctively: Nina would find out from her about what was happening at Sasha's house. But the blow did not achieve its purpose.

What could Nina do for Sasha? What could all of his comrades do? Write? To whom? What good would that do?

Once Nina had dropped in on Sofya Aleksandrovna. The latter had met her dryly, without the usual cordiality, as if Nina were to blame that Sasha was in prison and his comrades were at liberty. It was certainly ridiculous but that was the way it was. Nina remembered how Sasha was in school, the best among them. But a touching school friendship was not sufficient for political

trust. There was a cruel but inexorable logic in the class struggle. If a communist was evaluated by his personal characteristics, then the party would become an amorphous mass of starry-eyed intellectuals. But in the current complicated domestic and international situation, precision and clarity of position were needed as never before and Sasha, unfortunately, often asserted his own opinion...

Nina stopped going to Sofya Aleksandrovna's. If Varya wanted to--let her. Anyhow, she would get married to her Serafim and stop going too.

6

Varya had never been to such a grandiose party. On stage on the presidium sat military leaders known to the entire country. Varya recognized Budennyi immediately, but of those Serafim named in a whisper she remembered only one--Tukhachevskiy--she had never seen such a handsome man in her life. And although Varya did not like meetings and did not like speeches and reports, the festiveness of everything going on, the splendor of the hall, the emotion with which the legendary military men addressed the graduating cadets, and the atmosphere of masculine, military, and soldierly unity when the boundaries of subordination were erased and the graduating cadet saw his future in the famous military leader while the leader saw his youth in the young graduating cadet attracted her immediately.

And the wives of the military leaders were special women; they shared with their husbands the burden, adversity, and danger of the husbands' profession. And in the girls invited there Varya also saw something special and solemn; they were already part of this life. They were Moscow girls like her, a little older perhaps, and some very pretty and smartly dressed.

Varya had never been particularly interested in the Red Army Song and Dance Ensemble, but that day she even liked it and liked how these soldiers sang and danced on a short stopover and liked their Russian fiery spirit.

The brass band in the foyer was fine and played foxtrots, rumbas, and tangos no worse than jazz. And next to the smart military students, adroit, simple, and happy, the young people in their broad loose trousers, loud ties, and badly cleaned boots seemed ridiculous.

Nina danced with Maksim and held her hand on his shoulder and her face seemed sad to Varya.

"She probably regrets that he's leaving and she's refused to become his wife," Varya thought.

Serafim was also leaving the next day for the Far East, and today at this party Varya agreed to marry him. Of course not now but in a year. She would finish school and go to him. He would write her and she would answer and all her friends in school and at home would know that she was going to the Far East to her husband in a year. And that again singled her out from her friends--no one was waiting in the Far East for any of the girls she knew, no one was waiting for any of them at all. She would go alone to the theater,

the skating rink, and the movies. She would not go to dances at all. But if she went, she would dance with Zoya. Then again, she might dance with men, but she would not get to know them... "Thank you... No, I'm sorry... I can't..." Alone, lonely, unapproachable, and going to the Far East.

As for Sasha, she would not abandon Sofya Aleksandrovna, and, hence, Sasha. And the fact that Serafim would be waiting for her in the Far East and in Moscow Sasha and Sofya Aleksandrovna would need her made her even more interesting and important in her own eyes.

Varya was happy, everyone was paying attention to her. She and Serafim danced well together and even the top military leaders and their wives standing in the corner watched them. Varya tried to dance along the outer circle instead of in the middle of the room so everyone would see them. And she tried to spin around a little longer in that corner where the handsome Tukhachevskiy stood.

Dances at the Red Army House lasted till 0200 hours. Many people left earlier in order to make the streetcar. And Nina wanted to leave. But Varya felt bad about leaving and Serafim did not want to, and Maks only smiled good-naturedly. Ninka was left in the minority and submitted.

Later they walked across night-time Moscow; it was cold and Varya was not wearing galoshes and was wearing a light coat. Serafim threw his raincoat over her and put his service cap on her. At the street light she looked at herself in a little mirror and although the cap was slipping onto her forehead she looked good in it; it made her look like a handsome young soldier boy. She and Serafim walked behind. Serafim's hand lay on her shoulder and when Maksim and Nina turned the corner, they kissed. Varya had never really kissed before and did not get any pleasure out of it now; it simply hurt her lips. But Varya understood what it meant. It meant that Serafim was "passionate".

Nina probably guessed why Serafim and Varya stopped but she pretended that she had not noticed anything. And at home she did not say anything to Varya; she only told her to get into bed quickly and turn out the light--the next day she had to go to work in the morning and then they were going to the station to see off Maks and Serafim.

7

The same evening that Varya, Nina, and Maksim were dancing at the Red Army House, Sofya Aleksandrovna got a phone call and was told that the next day at 0900 hours she was supposed to show up at the commandant's office at Butyrka Prison to meet with her son Pankratov, Aleksandr Pavlovich. She was to bring warm things, money, and food with her. The voice was even and calm and a man talked who was used to saying the same thing day in and day out, laconically and absolutely clearly. And when he had stated everything he hung up the phone right away without waiting for questions.

And when he hung up the phone, Sofya Aleksandrovna was afraid: was it possible that he had not said everything he had to say and forgotten to tell her something important and essential so that she would not be able to do

everything as it should be done. She was afraid of forgetting something and afraid of becoming confused and so she tried feverishly to remember everything he had said: tomorrow at 0900 hours, a meeting, warm things, food, something else... Lord, she had forgotten what else. Oh, yes, money, money for the road... All this Sofya Aleksandrovna wrote down on a small piece of paper... Money and food meant exile, warm things meant the North or Siberia.

Everything had to be gotten together and made ready in one night, and Sofya Aleksandrovna had no time left for despair. She had been ready for this phone call. But she could not forgive herself for not getting anything together beforehand--she considered it a bad sign to prepare the boy for such a road in advance...

She looked at her watch and was horrified--it was 2115 hours and the extended-hours store closed at 2200 hours.

The streetcar was full and Sofya Aleksandrovna got onto the front platform of the second car, let them fine her, they would still not make her get off; but no one fined her and she passed the money for the ticket and stayed on the platform. She was thinking that there were a lot of things to do after the store and thinking about what to do about the suitcase--she did not know where the key was and whether the lock was fixed--the suitcase had not been used for a long time. But it had to have a lock--Sasha might end up in a group with criminals and they would steal everything from him.

At the thought that Sasha would end up in a group with criminals and they might rob him and beat him up, she again felt the whole extent of the misfortune that had befallen her son: branded, persecuted, cast out, and deprived of his rights. And if the criminals murdered him somewhere on a bunk, no one would know about it...

She got off the streetcar at the Okhotnyy Line. It was 2145 hours. From the stop she saw movement in the doors of the extended-hours store. It was open! She hurried, a small, heavy woman gasping from walking so fast. And when she came up, she saw a crowd near the store--they were not letting people in anymore and the people were starting a row, angry that they had been maybe a half minute late. Some tried to push through into the store but could not do it. A fat woman clerk was holding the door.

Sofya Aleksandrovna also tried to get through but she could not. She was jostled about in that small but excited crowd.

Then the crowd got smaller; people began to come out of the store less often and the light was turned off inside. Little by little everyone went their way.

Only Sofya Aleksandrovna did not leave. When the door opened, she asked the clerk to let her in.

The clerk--who had a fat, red, frost-bitten face--said in a rude voice:

"Go away, old lady, don't bother me, old lady!"

"Be so kind, I beg you," Sofya Aleksandrovna entreated.

A group of gay young people tumbled out of the store and one of them yelled in a young, fresh voice:

"Let the old lady in to get her half liter!"

And the gay company started to rush toward the Okhotnyy Line.

"I beg you, after all it's still possible," Sofya Aleksandrovna begged when the door opened.

The clerk did not pay any attention to her; she was used to such persistent people--every evening such moaners showed up and moaned until the lock was hung on the door. When Sofya Aleksandrovna tried to hold the door back, she yelled out of habit:

"Scram! Get away from the door!"

The cleaning women swept the floor and scattered yellow sawdust and the clerks were taking food from the counters, hurrying.

Sofya Aleksandrovna kept standing there.

The clerk let the last customer out and left her post. Sofya Aleksandrovna pushed the door open and went into the store.

"Where are you going?" the fat clerk ran up to her.

"I'm not leaving," Sofya Aleksandrovna said quietly.

"I'll hand you over to the police," the clerk threatened.

"I need things for my son, he's going to prison," Sofya Aleksandrovna said.

She looked at that coarse, fat, frost-bitten face, the face of a street trader selling pirozhki in the cold.

"They're sending him away tomorrow, I have to get a package together," Sofya Aleksandrovna said and took out the money.

The clerk sighed: "Everyone lies, everyone has something to say. But we have to have our rest too."

Sofya Aleksandrovna was silent.

The women put on their coats and gathered up their purses.

"Mikheyeva, take it!" the clerk yelled across the entire hall.

When Varya woke up in the morning, Nina was already gone. A note for the class leader was lying on the table: "Please let Varya Ivanova go after third period for domestic reasons." Domestic reasons--that was seeing Maks and Serafim off.

But Varya did not even think about going to school. She wanted to arrive at the station dressed nicely. The graduates were going away, there would be a lot of people seeing others off and those pretty and well-dressed girls whom she had seen yesterday at the party would come, and she wanted to be as well dressed as they were and look grown up and tasteful; after all, she was seeing off her own future husband. She would not dress in black, in mourning, just in good taste, but noticeable. She had to do her hair and put on make-up, but if she left after third period when she went to class in the second shift, she would not have time for anything.

She put her lunch on the burner on a low fire and went off to Zoya's.

Zoya did not go to school either and helped Varya get ready. She gave her fashionable boots with steel buckles and, the main thing, her mother's sealskin coat which her mother sometimes let her wear out on the street. And now Varya put it on and, as Zoya said, she looked ravishing in it, a grown up distinguished woman in a sealskin coat and fashionable boots, with a white scarf on her head which also belonged to Zoya's mother.

By 1700 hours Varya was finally ready and called Nina: "I'm coming right to the streetcar stop."

"Where are you calling from?"

"From school."

They reached the streetcar stop at the same time.

Nina did not recognize her...

"What kind of a disguise is that?"

"The cloakroom was closed, I put on Zoya's coat."

"And Zoya?"

"She'll wear mine."

"Where are your books?"

"I left them in my desk. Am I supposed to drag them to the station?"

The cloakroom might be closed during classes but Varya was still lying: Zoya's coat would have been locked up in the cloakroom too if it were really Zoya's coat.

But Nina did not feel like trying to find out and argue and catch her out. Let her, she was no longer a little girl and soon she would get married and it was good that it was Serafim, a decent fellow. Let her life be the way she wanted it to be and let her see off her Serafim the way she wanted to too.

The station was full and the platform was jammed with people; Nina and Varya stopped in dismay near the exit to the platform. But Maks and Serafim were already running to meet them, waving their arms, and they went all together along the train to their car, shoving their way through the crowd, afraid of getting lost among these people who were also hurrying and searching for their own among these men and women with small bundles and presents for the road and among the girls with flowers embracing and kissing these marvelous young fellows, newly-fledged Red Army commanders in soldier's blouses crossed with belts and without caps--they had left their caps and overcoats in the car... It was all young, joyful, lively, and at the same time serious--the menacing military might of the proletarian state. And Nina understood that these ardent young red-cheeked fellows would be the first to go into battle and the first to take on everything. And for the first time she thought that her place was next to Maksim, who was so strong and calm. And when he left, she would miss his composure and good nature.

But Varya was enjoying the way Serafim was looking at her so in love and the way other young commanders and everyone on the platform were looking at her. She was the most noticeable and prettiest girl there, and unexpectedly tall, almost as tall as Nina. And no one else had on such a stylish sealskin coat and such a fine scarf. Maks said that she looked like a movie actress and Serafim whispered that he loved her more than life itself.

And as was proper for a serious grown-up woman, an engaged woman, Varya looked only at her own people--Nina, Maks, and Serafim, and no longer looked at any one else so that they would not think that she was batting her eyes. If she did glance around, she simply looked with an indifferent absentminded glance at the station, the trains, the locomotives which let out long whistles, the platforms, and the people hurrying toward the trains.

And when she looked at the next platform she caught sight of Sasha...

He was walking between two Red Army soldiers and hurrying in front was a dark young commander in a long overcoat, anxiously pushing the crowd apart. And behind him, between two escorts, walked Sasha with a rucksack on his back and a suitcase in his hand.

He felt people looking at him and looked back at them and she saw his face which was as white as paper and his beard which was as black as a gypsy's. Sasha's glance slid over the cadets who were leaving and over Maks and Nina and Varya, but he did not recognize anyone and he turned away and went on between the two Red Army men behind the young commander to the train standing somewhere on the far platform. People were hurrying with bags, suitcases, and little trunks behind them and in front of them and they hurried and left them behind and disappeared into the crowd.

But Varya kept on looking where Sasha had vanished. She did not hear the bell ring and did not see everyone start saying goodbye and Nina kissing Maksim on the forehead and she did not see Serafim reaching out for her and staring into her eyes.

"Varya, wake up!" Nina said.

"I just saw Sasha," Varya said.

"What are you driveling about?" Nina shouted, suddenly understanding that Varya was telling the truth.

"Escorts were leading him and he had a beard," Varya muttered, not taking her gaze away from the neighboring platform as if he were still walking in the crowd of people running with bags, suitcases, and little trunks, as if he were still walking, still walking, and she would be able to catch sight of him.

"He has a beard, a beard like an old man... " She choked tearfully.

"Just like an old man, just like one... "

"Stop it, you made a mistake," Nina said and her voice trembled.

And Maks, who was also disturbed but trying to keep calm, added: "You're wrong, Varya, they couldn't send him off like that."

"It was him." Her voice broke and she choked. "I recognized him, he looked around and looked and he was all white, just like an old man... "

A confused Serafim held out his hand to her: "Goodbye, Varya... "

"White, white as a corpse," sobbed Varya, "and he's dragging a suitcase. They're walking and he's dragging it... "

Embarrassed and blushing, Serafim kissed her on the cheek which was wet with tears and with black streams of mascara which had trickled from her eyelashes.

The train slowly moved off and the cadets hung onto the foot boards, crowded together on the platforms, and shouted and waved their hands from the windows; and the people seeing them off also waved and shouted things in farewell and walked along next to the train. And Maksim waved, and Serafim did too...

And Varya stood in the middle of the platform and cried and wiped her face with her scarf and smeared the makeup over her face and swallowed tears. And Nina, frightened and in shock, reassured her:

"Stop, what can be done now, we'll go over to Sofya Aleksandrovna's and we'll find out everything... "

An old woman walked past and stopped and looked at Varya and shook her head sympathetically:

"The girls are crying over their soldier boys."

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WRITER SPEAKS ABOUT POSTWAR PERIOD, 20TH CONGRESS

[Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 9 May 1987 carries on pages 1 and 2 under the heading "Vyacheslav Kondratyev: I March in Step With My Generation" a 2,500-word interview with writer V. Kondratyev by O. Ogneva, which opens with the following introduction:

"Vyacheslav Kondratyev entered our literature as a 'war' writer. In his short novella 'Sashka' he depicted the war as seen by a rank and file soldier, only yesterday a school pupil. This was followed by 'war' short stories and the novella 'Convalescence Leave' [otpusk po raneniyu]. It suddenly seemed as if in his 'meetings on the Sretenka' [vstrechi na sretenke] the author had abandoned the familiar frontline theme..."

This is followed by a lengthy opening statement by Kondratyev, stating that he has "in no way abandoned" the theme and that he is "perturbed by the fate of our generation." He speaks in general terms about his previous books and, turning to "meetings on the Sretenka," says: "But very little was written at the time about those returning from the front, it was not done; I recall reading in 1948 that the war had apparently already 'become history...' Come now, how could it have become history while my comrades were still being treated in hospitals, while wives were waiting for their husbands and mothers believed that their sons would return and lived in hope.... Alas, that was another banned topic, just like the fact that it was not easy to adjust to the postwar world..."

Replying to a question about his latest work, Kondratyev says that he has just completed a new book entitled "The Red Gates" [krasnyye vorota] in which the action takes place between December 1947, on the day when ration cards were abolished, and the summer of 1948. He goes on: "After all, even though things became materially easier after the abolition of ration cards, this certainly did not mean that the other difficulties--'nonmaterial' but by no means less complex--also disappeared: I have in mind the very questions which we asked ourselves and failed to answer."

He describes as "incomprehensible" the "active newspaper campaigns of those years," and says that this period "was not yet a period of insight, but marked the beginning of doubts, of independent thinking." According to Kondratyev, "my heroes express doubts about that which yesterday still seemed to be beyond doubt. I bluntly write about things as they were: the arrests, and the returns from detention."

Asked about his future projects, he says:

"Speaking about my generation, one cannot overlook the 1953-1956 period. And the 20th party congress. I think that by no means everything has been written about that time. And it cannot be ignored. How can you 'leap over' 1956 and the stormy onset of the sixties--just think back to the 'youth poetry' and the evenings at the polytechnical institute."

The interview then turns to the current process of restructuring, the shortcomings brought to light at the Eighth Writers Union Congress, and the problems of cinematography. Kondratyev attributes the writing of "half-truths" to the fact that "writers, just like all people, must earn their living..."

Turning to 'new problems,' Kondratyev cites an extract from "an old book" castigating bureaucracy and says: "Topical, isn't it? A writer's attempt to present in fictional form the entire complex process of the origins of Soviet bureaucracy and its present collapse would be equally topical."

/8309

CSO: 1800/637

PAINTING ON TV DEPICTS STALIN ERA ARREST

LD081719 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 8 May during its "Vremya" newscast shows a Soviet painting depicting the arrest in the 1930's of a victim of the Stalinist regime. In a report on today's public opening in Moscow of an exhibition by members of the Soviet Academy of Arts, the camera shows the picture by Dmitriy Zhilinskiy hanging among other exhibits. The painting depicts a man standing in his underclothes with his hands raised in the air, while uniformed men rummage through his belongings and his family look on.

As the camera dwells on the picture for several seconds, the reporter says: "The truth of life and the dictates of the times in which we live today are among the main criteria of the content of art, and it is natural that alongside large-scale works affirming our way of life today the exhibition should also include this new painting by Dmitriy Zhilinskiy, entitled '1937.'"

The reporter says that "hundreds" of people were in the Tretyakov Gallery to view the exhibition in the first few hours after the opening, and that there was "great interest" in the exhibition. The camera does not zoom in close enough to make legible an inscription at the bottom of the painting, which is reported by London THE TIMES in English 8 May issue to read: "Dedicated to those who perished innocently at the time of repression."

/8309

CSO: 1800/637

SOCIOLOGIST ON BUREAUCRAT'S ROLE UNDER CENTRALIZED DEMOCRACY

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 12, 23-29 Mar 87 pp 2-3

[Article by Gennadiy Batygin, candidate in philosophical sciences, deputy editor-in-chief of SOTSIOLOGICHESKIYE ISSLEDOVANIYA, under rubric, "Restructuring Progresses": "A Test of Openness: Notes of a Sociologist"]

[Text] Some people say that it costs a sociologist no effort to analyze a conflict within a group scientifically and develop a recommendation that will cause the squabblers to forget their quarrel immediately and kiss and make up... When my colleague spoke to me about this, his eyes were full of sadness and discouragement.

Their group of sociologists confronted a problem that had no precedent in the history of our science. And the strangest thing about it was that the logic and means of solution to this problem were not only known, but had been stipulated from above. They were supposed to decide with complete openness and democracy which staff members would be let go so as to save 500 rubles per month from the division's wage fund.

Openness was in full swing. What a lot of things were called by their true names -- openly and right between the eyes! They were told who was late to work, who made money on the side, who plagiarized, who sucked up to management, who was sleeping with whom, who was tricked whom, whose husband was a composer and raking it in..

Surprisingly, neither university diplomas, nor advanced degrees, nor possession of philosophical and sociological knowledge made any difference: all were equal and all were featureless before the need for a sacrifice, each one might be the object of the inexorable choice and each one made his judgement, purporting to speak in the name of the group which had been called upon to "sanctify" this selection by the will of the majority -- to make this reduction in force democratic.

Only one junior scientist, without an advanced degree, did not avail himself of the opportunity to have his say -- he blinked stupidly and could not take part in the discussion because he had been shy since childhood and feared the majority. Of course, he too had thoughts such as, "Let it not be me who is fired, let it be somebody else;" however, he did not count on the support of his colleagues.

"The voice of the people!" my sociologist colleague concluded his sad tale, and, thinking a bit, he added in Latin, "Vox humanum!"

"And how did this story end?"

"It really didn't. The head of the department cost exactly 500 rubles, but he is an inviolable figure, what kind of a department would we be without a head? The chief scientist plus a laboratory assistant was one alternative, a senior scientist plus a junior scientist with a degree was a second, three junior scientists was a third... In the end, nothing really came of it, we decided to ask the authorities to leave the sociology department untouched because of the importance of the human factor and instead to reduce the department of scientific organization of labor since what they study is less important.

He was silent for a while.

"And do you know why they needed openness?"

"????"

"If the reduction in force had been done in the usual administrative manner -- there would have been no end of trouble. Since the one who decides has to answer for the decision, isn't it better not to get involved. If you are responsible you can expect to get phone calls from the person whose case is at hand, from his friends, and to be accused of persecuting him because he criticized you, and of distorting the party line.. But you can't complain personally about the entire group, can't call it at home. Democracy is the power of the people! The majority is always right! And everyone is satisfied, the authorities won't take responsibility for the decision, but pass it off onto the group of employees, and it slides off the group like water off a duck's back.."

"So what's the result? Instead of an administrative truncheon, you get a democratic one?"

"You understand there are some decisions which must be made by an individual, personally, and this is the most democratic thing. There's no other way: where did you every see democracy when the father's property had to be divided among the sons?

When the surface of our social life was calm and smooth, with the illusion of abundance (individual shortcomings don't count), we grew accustomed to looking at democracy and on political activity in general from below. Democracy manifested itself over there in meeting halls, in high tribunals, and was reflected by the numbers of the laboring masses engaged in public work and by participation in the standing works conferences, and sounded in the "Vremya" program.

Centralized democracy fostered the idea that the prerogative of making decisions belonged to the representatives of the people. The people unanimously ratified the decisions and never guessed that, parallel to the primary "greater" democracy, a second "lesser," every-day democracy was

developing. The events in the life of society were discussed in the so-called informal circle of communication: with friends and coworkers, in train cars, in smoking rooms, and even at meetings -- not on the platform though, but in the lobby. No one ever saw a tablet inscribed "Lobby," but this is where the "lesser" democracy found refuge. Here is where they exchanged reliable information, gave each other advice, sought help, cursed each other out .. and got the work done. They grew accustomed to something really astonishing: someone who had just competently, accurately, and exhaustively spoken about a serious situation which was developing, mounted the platform and suddenly started declaiming with the thunderous futility of ceremonial phrases.

Public opinion also had two "layers." Sociological investigations offer interesting food for thought: sociologists assess the reliability of sources of information such as rumors (how many times has this philistine survival been damned!) as fairly high, offering, at the very least, serious competition to official information sources.

Was there openness in the second "layer"? Of course there was. No topic was forbidden, no area was beyond criticism. But the most important thing -- decision making -- was missing and openness without decision making, without the burden of responsibility turns into mere verbosity. It is virtually inseparable from the pseudo-openness of the philistine, who with a sweet sinking of the heart wants to read "something terrible," for example, the unmasking of a high official, as long as it is nothing to do with him.

Perhaps, this sounds trivial, but we are learning to understand that free expression of opinions does not exhaust the essence of democracy. Democracy is a form of power, a way of serving the interests of the people, and the crux of the matter is the nature of those interests -- the nature of the people themselves.

Is the majority always right?

Picture a crowd all crossing the street against a red light, while only one, a man in a cap, waits for the green. Note that there are no cars around. The position of the dissident does not go unnoticed: people turn around and ask "What are you standing there for?" But he remains there, evidently, proud of his solitary righteousness and exclusivity. From the point of view of a State Automobile inspector all his clear: he alone is right and the others are wrong. But sociological truths not infrequently turn out to be "upside down." It is unimaginably difficult, often beyond our strength, to refrain from seeing the one who is out of step as a transgressor. All crows must be black, White Bima was not allowed at the dog show because all setters have to be the same color, and this oddball in the hat is, of course, the one who is wrong. He broke the antirule, so laconically and brilliantly formulated by Winnie the Pooh: "If everyone does it then you can too!"

A crowd has no doubts, choice or responsibility. Everyone means no one. Openness does not bring forth good fruit here. I am convinced that bureaucrats and highly placed time-servers are not the only ones to blame for the social deformation which has occurred. At least, they are no different from the so-called simple people (education and earnings don't count here, a

collector of glass containers may have an advanced degree and earn more than an academician) and, indeed, are simple in their own way. Social deformation occurred with universal approval, perhaps it was only superficial, but nevertheless with the approval of the people.

There is no cause for moralizing. Management by directive, the unreliability of legal defense, economic and social stagnation could not but lead to the development and spread of stagnation in the consciousness of the masses. The dissemination of levelling, the worst enemy of progress, was in some measure profitable to broad sections of the public [i.e., the lower classes]. I am speaking not only about workers in distribution and service who would benefit from an economic "deficit." Levelling guaranteed a kind of confidence in tomorrow, a confidence based on the Russian "well maybe something will come along" and the fact that there were no economic repercussions for sloughing off. Responsibility, distributed among everybody, dissolved in the masses, removes the blame from anyone in particular. And, it must be admitted, this is also one of the manifestations of pseudodemocracy.

We are learning to live in a social-political atmosphere of renewal. The party's call to unleash criticism and self-criticism and to call things by their right names is supported by the broadest sectors of society, by all the people. Exposés are literally never absent from the pages of the newspaper. Taking advantage of the opportunity to indulge in writing about heretofore forbidden subjects, especially since the demand for them is high, the press not infrequently sacrifices quality. What is frightening is not the daring of the criticism, but its superficiality. Recently, the press has exposed "antisocialist elements" in the state machinery, attempted to give a hostile political tinge to informal youth groups, and called for "class struggle," to rout the nouveau rich having 20,000 in savings, as was done with the kulaks.

Thus, like it or not, democratization of social life, openness and freedom of opinion have led to a certain degree of polarization of public opinion, including "superrevolutionary" slogans, which have totally unexpected consequences. Social persecution and endeavors to unmask class or national enemies are incompatible with lawfulness and democratization of society.

The main forces today are engaged in a campaign against bureaucracy. In our imagination the bureaucrat is often a well-fed character with a dull expression on his face, always at a large desk with a battery of telephones. It goes without saying that he says no to anything new the minute it comes in the door. Sociologists have performed a small public opinion survey: without using complex methodology, they simply asked various people a single question, "Who is hampering restructuring?" Eighty percent of those asked cited bureaucrats and those working in administration.

How can we distinguish a bureaucrat from a good manager? There is only one answer, a true manager is a person with high political, moral and professional qualities, who is able to organize the work and interest people in the final result. If a group of workers wants to live well without working, it is easy to imagine what sort of a manager they would choose. The election of managers by labor collectives is compatible with democracy only when the people are prepared to make the right choice. Otherwise, the mob will call the shots.

Sociologists are well aware that an informal leader, a person whom everyone likes, can almost never cope with the duties of a manager. Whether we like it or not, the "chief" must be able to make people work; he sits in the management position not in order to get his subordinates to like him, but to give orders. Currently, elections for heads of brigades, shops, and even enterprises are becoming more and more widespread. And, as a rule, when the informal leader becomes a manager there is a fiasco. Democracy is a complicated matter!

What to do? There is an ancient principle of life, "Heal thyself." A person turns into a bureaucrat not by virtue of his position at work, nor his official status, nor his professional role, but because of his fear of the multiplicity of life, fear of the need to take responsibility for his decisions.

Restructuring of the life of society is incompatible with the existence of two democracies -- the official and the everyday. The party offers us examples of honorable and high-principled solutions of strategic political problems. Furthermore, true democracy proposes the assimilation of political culture in everyday life -- the greater will grow from the lesser.

"Don't retreat from the individual," this line from Pasternak conceals the answer to many questions.

Can we call things by their right names? Can we save face and position? And show neither patience nor tolerance, but rather act from the unshakable consciousness that no one has a monopoly on truth and infallibility?

The development of democracy carries with it a wide diversity of opinions, divergence and even collision of interests. Professionalism and idleness, intellect and ignorance, honor and boorishness... They can not help but be enemies. Openness, called upon to serve good, far from always bars the road to evil. Evil finds the opportunity to adapt to the new situation and have its way, not on the sly as previously, but openly and high-handedly. It is precisely the democratization of social life which has demonstrated that the voice of the people is not in unanimous unison. It is more like polyphony.

Democracy does not come from above like a directive, but takes shape slowly, laboriously, frequently even painfully, along with the traditions of political life. It would be naive to try to graduate from the school of life without attending classes.

Openness continues to be tested.

9285

CSO: 1830/422

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA REPORTS ON TOXIC SUBSTANCE USERS

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Feb 87 p 13

[Article by Vasiliy Golovanov, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA special correspondent: "A No Man's Land?"; main focus is upon a gang of teen-agers, many mentally retarded, assembling after school on benches beside a railroad track, and sniffing toxic substances in an abandoned basement]

[Excerpt] TOXICOMANIA [Euphemism: toxic substance abuse]--thus "sniffing" is correctly named--has fallen upon our heads like the snow. We have read about drug addiction, and we know about drug addiction, consoling ourselves with the thought that narcotics are expensive and hard to get. And here it has turned out that ordinary "everyday chemistry" costing kopecks poses a threat.

What is toxicomania? Together with Yevgeniy Iosifovich Tsymbal, scientific associate of the Second Medical Institute's department for the study of molecular mechanisms in drug addiction, I shall try to describe the problem's scope. So, its origin: The "custom" comes from education and labor colonies, where the labor is associated with wood treatment. The mechanism of its effect on the nervous system has been little studied. It is known that prolonged "sniffing" can cause vivid hallucinations. In overdoses, terrifying visions appear, in escaping from which, a sniffer may, for example, jump out a window. The aftereffects: Unlike the usual narcotics and alcohol, "chemistry" ["khimiya"] does not produce the hangovers and terrible heroin "breakdowns" that both alcoholics and drug addicts, regardless of their addiction, perceive as ominous signals of the illness overtaking them. Here, it is something else--"emotional habituation" and remembering that "it is fun to sniff." There are, it is true, as yet unexplained cases of sudden and irreversible mental debilitation and complete personality disintegration, in which an afflicted person starts hiding in a closet and writing love letters to closest relatives. There are poisonings with fatal outcome--when the dead body of a 12-year-old boy, on whose head is zipped a gym bag containing a rag moistened with a chemical substance, is found in a basement.

We do not know how many such cases there are--no data exist--but, in principle, this can be totaled up. Alas, you cannot express toxicomania's social consequences statistically. You have to speak in general terms: It is providing society with infantilistic and socially maladjusted persons. They inhale for hours (sometimes, after returning from school--until late in the evening and time to go to bed), reaching a state that is truly characteristic of a sick mind--schizophrenia, delirium tremens. What lessons are there here, and what comprehension of life!

At the clinic, I had a conversation with 17-year-old Zhenya [Yevgeniy] K., a close acquaintance of the boys who were arrested on the railroad: He was talkative, self-assured, and his hair--in vogue--bleached with peroxide. He sniffed and "watched the cartoons." "And what else did I do?--We played soccer. You get some fresh air for 2 hours--and you're back to normal."

He now has a girl. She is pregnant, and wondering whether to have an abortion. It seems to make no difference to Zhenya. He has been living with his mother. He quit the PTU [vocational-technical school] and his job at a plant as well-- Ultimately, he will have to be employed as something, but as what is not yet clear....

And another question: Why has "sniffing" begun just now? And why specifically among teen-agers? (The first teen-ager toxicomaniacs were brought to the 15th Psychiatric Hospital in 1979. Their number is growing, and 1985, for example, produced a twofold increase as compared with 1984.)

It may be considered proved that a connection exists between teen-agers' toxicomania and their parents' drunkenness. And here I am talking, not only about the notorious "teaching neglect," but also about biological abnormality; not without cause is the gang's core--children from the auxiliary school [school for the mentally retarded]. When you cross its threshold, you begin to perceive the struggle against drunkenness in another light, looking at those persons of strange head shape and strange eye expression.... "The need for knowledge is reduced, interests are lacking, there is emotional flatness, and they fear nothing"--this, so to speak, is the teacher's description. The physicians treating drug addicts have their own criteria for the abnormality: The children of drunkards, beginning to drink in their own turn, do not experience a mild, euphoric intoxication; the intoxication immediately takes the amnesic forms (that is, the severe ones typical for adult alcoholics). Hence the desire to replace alcohol with anything that may also produce a "high" ["baldezh"]....

There has been no leader in the gang, to whose pernicious influence the ruinous addiction could be attributed. True, there figures in the materials of the inspection office for juvenile affairs one Sveta P., stepsister of the Alekseyev who is a principal in the case concerning the thefts, and a confirmed "sniffer," brought to the Sklifosovskiy Clinic with acute toxicosis and transferred to the 15th Psychiatric Hospital, from which she escaped, having let herself down from the third floor with bed sheets. However, she held a special place among the boys: eight grades in the auxiliary school--this is three by the usual scale--plus a rather strange psychological abnormality--she considered herself a boy, and introduced herself as Sasha Ivanov. Thus, it turned out that the "unfortunate ones"--not each one individually, but all together--became the gang's "collective leader," and gave the activity program to the rest, even including the "fortunate ones" [those not mentally retarded]. Hence began the riding on the trains, the breaking of glass, and the stealing.... In getting to the roots of this problem, it is important to explain why the others accepted this program. Maybe because they did not have their own?

But here I sit at the police department, looking at these boys, listening to their answers (strictly speaking, their testimony), and trying to imagine what will become of them after this whole story. Someone slips away. It is the one from the special school for mathematics, and he will be frightened, will understand that he has gone rather too far, and will be thinking about his career. Well, and what will become of Alekseyev--unremarkable but invariable participant in all of the "railroad adventures"? And of Vadim P., a handsome 17-year-old, already having been laid up in "Pyatnashka" ["the 15th Psychiatric Hospital"] for "sniffing," and there having picked up a new experiment? Or of Sergey Avilov, not present here, who, 2 weeks before this discussion, had run out of the house to escape his father's beatings, and a week ago was taken, "as one ill from sniffing," directly from the school to the narcotic clinic, where he received an order for treatment? Are they, perhaps, doomed to failure? Some--as perpetual visitors to the drug-addiction department--and the others--as potential criminals?

If so, then we soon should be talking also about preventive confinement (and some are talking about it!): If he is "difficult" and from an unhappy family, then provide it in advance, before he has done something really bad, in...how can this be expressed a little more gently?--Let us put him on a reservation, perhaps, or in a "labor commune," so he will not sniff, but have usefulness to society....

However, the question arises: Of what are the children guilty? The drunkard parents are guilty. Maybe, then, this is for them...to a reservation? But who will set the criteria by which to "punish" and "pardon"? In order to cope with the disease, society itself must change to respond to the pain.

So, now we have encountered a new aspect of the "difficult-children" problem--toxicomania. What has been done?

The transportation police first arrested these boys on the railroad as long ago as 1983. They advised of the arrest by place of residence, and booked the boys at the 93d Police Department. What else? Let us assume that a teen-ager is arrested for a minor breach of the peace. The police advise the school. The school counters with: "Have a talk with him." And so it goes--around and around, until the first serious incident.

And the serious incident nevertheless occurs: "On 11 February 1986 at 1800, 13 teen-agers were brought to the department in a state of toxic inebriation."

I inquire at the police department: What happens after they are caught? Are they put into a hospital? The police answer: If a hospital will take them.

It turns out that only "Pyatnashka" accepts teen-agers, and then only from age 15. To get the younger ones in is practically impossible: Hospital No 6 (Children's) is in a constant state of repair, besides which they try not to accept the "difficult" group.

"But does not placement in a regular hospital, in and of itself, solve the problem?" I inquire at the clinic.

"Of course not," they answer me. "Especially because now the hospital more accurately is performing, not medical functions, but the functions of a holding facility: If legal sanctions cannot be applied to a teen-ager, or he cannot be sent to a special vocational-technical school [spetsPTU], they bring him to us, so he can 'sit out' a month or so. He sits it out--and returns to the very same environment, the very same problems...."

Where the teen-agers are getting the chemical products is known to the police. During the past year, "representations" were sent three times to Comrade V.G. Subachev, director of one of the Moscow plants, in which it was pointed out perfectly clearly:

"...Workers are carrying chemical preparations out to sell, and are selling them to teen-agers at 1 ruble per bottle...."

"...Teen-agers freely walk through the plant grounds for the purpose of acquiring chemical preparations, and they take them out of their storage places."

Comrade Subachev never once advised what security measures were taken. I suspect that there were no measures whatsoever....

A criminal case was not instituted against metal worker Kartsev, caught red-handed--there is no article in the criminal code which prescribes punishment for this kind of act. Kartsev got off with a transfer to another job....

The inspection office appealed for assistance to the chiefs--of the Komsomol [Communist Youth League] organization of the ZIL [Moscow Motor-vehicle Plant imeni I.A. Likhachev] administration for conveyer systems and lifts: The chiefs showed up twice, and checked the plan of operation, but none of them even once met with a single teen-ager.... The inspection office appealed--without results--to the Proletarskiy Rayon Committee [RK] of the Voluntary Society for Cooperation with the Armed Forces [DOSAAF]: "Help us in organizing teen-agers' spare time." It met with the most animated understanding in the Komsomol's rayon committee [raykom]...and no specific assistance of any kind was forthcoming.

We have encountered a most serious problem How to take inventory of these harmful substances, and how to keep them secure? How to arrange for their distribution? How to treat toxicomania? Where to treat teenaged toxicomaniacs? How to break them of this? And we cannot give a timely answer to a single one of these questions; we do not know the phenomenon's scope, and cannot even imprison a scoundrel who has been selling the poison to teen-agers--no authorization exists, there is a "loophole" in the law. It turns out that we are not ready for a struggle against this phenomenon, and that there remains in our hands only one means--that most well-disguised system of preventive confinement--isolation in the hospital and the special vocational-technical school....

In the struggle against drug addiction there are, as yet, no ready prescriptions. Probably, however, it is worthwhile to heed the experience of foreign countries, where public organizations (for example, "Students and Parents Against Narcotics," "Teachers Against Narcotics," etc.) take part in solving this problem along with the state. Drug addiction, it seems to me, still is springing up in our midst because we are inclined to view it as an "exotic vice" rather than as one of the facets of a serious social problem. In entrusting solution of all the painful problems to an executive authority, we thereby complicate the struggle--because both the police and the public health service, strictly speaking, deal with the end results, and the basic cause thus remains in a "no man's land" between the family, the school, and some abandoned basement....

12319

CSO: 1830/442

AzSSR: GREATER EFFORTS IN JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION URGED

Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 26 Dec 86 p 4

[Article by Senior Court Counselor R. Papazyan, chief of the department for supervising enforcement of the laws concerning juveniles, Armenian SSR Public Prosecution Agency, under the rubric "The Citizen. The Society. The Law": "The Teen-Ager--A Special Person"; passages rendered in all-capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] Upon what does a teen-ager's fate depend? Upon the adults' attitude toward him or her. The family, the school, the various public organizations--athletic, cultural, and, of course, the commissions and inspection offices for juvenile affairs--here is that primary circle of "adult" authorities who are obliged to prepare teen-agers for life and work. How are they doing this?

I think teachers and psychologists will tell you best of all about the effectiveness of teen-agers' education in the family, the school, and athletic and learning-enhancement clubs. As a public prosecutor, obliged to supervise observance of the law's requirements for educating juveniles and preventing delinquency among them, I shall speak specifically about only this aspect of the overall concern over teen-agers.

I shall begin with a case from public prosecution practice. Juvenile Ernest P., a public school senior who was not going to school despite repeated warnings and had turned down the proffered work activity, was booked in the Kafanskiy ROVD [Rayon Internal Affairs (Police) Department] Inspection Office for Juvenile Affairs. Consequently, he also was booked in accordance with the law.

However, this did not prevent him from committing a theft in a store soon afterward. For this act, he was sentenced to deprivation of freedom for a period of 2 years, with suspension of the sentence's execution. Juvenile Ernest P. had already been enrolled for preventive work in the same inspection office. This means that a special file is established for a juvenile, and now--he is an object of special attention for the inspection-office workers. To educate the teen-ager and make an active, socially useful person of him--such is the task of the inspector and the inspection office. The forms and methods of its accomplishment are various. But what good are they if a formalistic attitude is taken toward such work? So it was in our case. The proposed points of the measures to educate Ernest P. went, unaccomplished, from one work schedule to

another in the inspection office. The public educator and the chief teacher assigned to him did not talk with him a single time, and they did no educational work. Not even a year had passed, when the teen-ager had committed a new crime and already been sentenced to deprivation of freedom for a period of 4 years. He is serving out his punishment in an education and labor colony, where I met him, and he told me about himself and the "preventive" work conducted with him.

It is a sad story. It could be a different one if they had actually carried out the preventive work with him in the inspection office.

No less sad a story took place in Kirovakan with juvenile Artavazd D. And here there was first the offense--stealing a motor vehicle--then the trial, the sentencing, suspension of the sentence, and enrollment for preventive work. There was formalistic execution of its duties on the part of the inspection office for juvenile affairs also. And, in the end--a new motor-vehicle theft and an accident.

Unfortunately, a good many similar examples can be cited from practical experience in public prosecution supervision. But, despite still existing deficiencies in the matter of organizing early preventive measures, a steady trend in juvenile crime's decline has been noted during recent years. However, the trend cannot satisfy us as yet: THE LEVEL OF CRIME AND DELINQUENCY AMONG JUVENILES STILL IS HIGH IN THE REPUBLIC. ANALYSIS OF MANY CRIMINAL CASES HAS SHOWN THAT THIS SITUATION, FIRST OF ALL, IS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCIES' AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS' INSUFFICIENT EFFORTS AND, FREQUENTLY, THEIR FORMALISTIC ATTITUDE IN THE MATTER OF EDUCATING JUVENILES AND PREVENTING DELINQUENCY AMONG THEM.

Here the commissions for juvenile affairs attached to the rayon and city soviets of people's deputies can do a great deal. What will become of a teen-ager in the future, once he has deviated from the law's and society's standards, depends squarely upon them. Indeed, the commission under the ispolkom [soviet executive committee]--this, expressing myself figuratively, is the purgatory, where prevention of a teen-ager's crossing over to the criminal path occurs. Precisely for this reason, the law assigns to the commission large and responsible tasks associated with organizing the proper education and preventing delinquency among juveniles.

And for this purpose, the commission must show the proper initiative in many urgent matters--discovering "difficult" teen-agers, unhappy families, and juveniles who have abandoned their studies and are not working. In other words, the commission's basic function--is preventive work, by its nature a selfless cause.

Unfortunately, many commissions lack this selflessness. Their activity is limited mainly to discussing the materials on one or another number of teen-ager delinquencies that have come in from the legal protection agencies, and they discuss these and adjourn, leaving the teen-agers to their own devices. So operate, unfortunately, the commissions under the ispolkoms of the Akhuryanskiy, Goris, Kafan, Martuni, Talin, and other soviets of people's deputies.

And what about the local soviets themselves? Are they creating the proper conditions for carrying out the assigned duties? Here is a descriptive example. A state decision was made as early as 1966 about instituting the position of full-time responsible secretary in the commission for juvenile affairs: The secretary must be a person who carries out the organizer's function in this work. However, these positions have not been so instituted in many rayons--Abovyanskiy, Idzhevanskiy, imeni Kamo, Oktemberyanskiy, Sevanskiy, and others.

The commissions' work also is hindered by the circumstance that many of them, to the present time, continue to be guided by the old instructions "Commissions for Juvenile Affairs" and "Public Educators of Juveniles," promulgated as long ago as 1967, whereas substantial additions and changes to these documents were instituted in 1984 and 1985.

Is it only this? The local soviets' ispolkoms not only fail to render the necessary assistance to the commissions, they themselves often fail to carry out assignments coming from the republic's guiding agencies in matters of educating juveniles. Such, by the way, is the state of affairs in implementing the decisions of the union soviet's commission for national education and culture and the USSR Supreme Soviet's soviet of nationalities, which made a special study of the state of observance, in our republic, of the law's requirements concerning further improvement in educational work and the prevention of delinquency among students of public schools and proftekhuchilishchi [vocational-technical schools]. A republic government decision was made on this matter, but not all local soviets have implemented its requirements. Among these are: the Vardenisskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Oktemberyanskiy, and Spitakskiy Rayon Soviets of People's Deputies.

So, upon what does the teen-ager's fate depend? In acquainting yourself with the criminal cases, you observe juvenile delinquents' typical characteristics. All of them start by losing interest in their studies, are chronically tardy, and, as a consequence--clash with the teachers and their peers. Were one to come to their aid just at this point, he or she might be able to draw them into a circle of different interests--technical and art clubs, athletic units. Truly draw them in, and do not formally enter a teen-ager's name on a list. What is a formality anyway, when the teachers themselves often aggravate the teen-agers' unsettled condition. The sad example of Kh. Abramyan, director of boarding school No 2 in District [Rayon] imeni 26 Commissars, with his anti-pedagogical methods, is well-known. In addition to the fact that they behaved rudely toward the students in the school--for a committed misdeed, however slight, they did not permit the students to attend classes. It is not surprising that many of them had 700 to 800 hours of absences each during a school year. Naturally, some of them, being left beyond control, disturbed the peace, and were turned over to the police.

There is a problem inherent in this, too. Is it really so necessary to turn them over to the police for just any reason? At the republic public prosecutor's direction, we checked the observance of legality in this matter. It became clear that juveniles are being turned over to the police in many cases,

not for committing a delinquency, as the law requires, but, for example, for "having skipped classes," "having been wandering aimlessly about the streets," "having been at the railway station without parents," etc. Here, if one were simply to have a talk with the teen-agers, he or she might lead them out of the "danger zone." Alas, turning them over is the easiest method. Is this not really the reason there often are teen-agers who pose no serious threat on the books in the inspection office for juvenile affairs? And, at the same time, those teen-agers from whom one might realistically expect the commission of crimes are poorly brought to light and booked. This is not a paradox, it is formalistic performance of their obvious duties. It is callousness and indifference to the rising generation. And, what is more--it is dislike of their profession. And in such a matter, love of profession is necessary as nowhere else.

Of course, with the "difficult" teen-agers, and even with juveniles in general, one does not have an easy time. Demanding and painstaking work is necessary. The teen-ager is a special person. And it is necessary that the education agencies, labor collectives, and labor-union and Komsomol [Communist Youth League] organizations be imbued with a great awareness of the work being carried out--the teen-agers' education. It is particularly important to conduct the education around their place of residence, and to enlist the public and the parents themselves in this work actively.

The task of educating the younger generation--this is truly a national matter, and, as was noted in the 27th CPSU Congress, "In many respects, the future will be determined by the kind of young people we nurture today."

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MORE GEORGIAN OFFICIALS RESPOND TO ANTI-ALCOHOL QUESTIONNAIRE

Tbilisi KOMMUNIST GRUZII in Russian No 12, Dec 86 (signed to press 2 Dec 86) pp 60-65

[Article consisting of responses by prominent Georgians to questions of KOMMUNIST GRUZII: "There Must Be no Indulgence Here!" Previous article published in JPRS-UPS-87-002, 20 Jan 87, pp 86-93; first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] As readers will know, with the objective of intensifying the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism, the editors of KOMMUNIST GRUZII have asked a number of prominent members of our society to respond to a number of questions, offer their suggestions, share their ideas concerning ways to intensify this campaign and discuss what they see to be the achievements in this area and the shortcomings in the effort that remain to be remedied. Some of the responses the editors have received were published in the September (9) issue of the journal.

Here are the questions we included on our questionnaire:

1. What impact have efforts to implement the CPSU Central Committee decree, "Ways to Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism," had on the performance of work collectives and on efforts to improve conditions?
2. What is your attitude toward the view that the problems of drunkenness and alcoholism are not matters of urgency in our republic?
3. Are you satisfied with results achieved in the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism by the methods and means employed to date? How should this campaign be conducted in the future?
4. As you know, most crimes, to include malicious vandalism and motor vehicle accidents, are committed in a state of intoxication. Do you consider it necessary to increase the punishments for these types of violation?

We now offer another selection of letters the editors have received.

A. GABIANI, deputy director, Center for the Study, Formation and Forecasting of Public Opinion of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia:

1. Analysis of the progress of the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism reveals that over the period since the CPSU Central Committee adopted its decree, the republic has achieved some notable successes in this direction. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is down substantially, as are the negative consequences of drinking and alcoholism in the home and in the workplace. Many people have now developed a better understanding of the benefits of the sobered life-style.

2. The view we hear expressed that drunkenness and alcoholism do not represent any serious social threat to our republic does not in any way correspond to the true state of affairs. True, the alcoholism rate here in our republic is still lower than it is in some other parts of the country, but over the course of the last 20 years we have seen a dangerous tendency for the rate to climb. Specially conducted socioeconomic studies have shown that from the second half of the 1970's on, the republic has suffered annual losses from drunkenness and alcoholism totalling some 200 million rubles. This indicator has risen steadily over the years since, and, according to our computations, in the first half of the 1980's was exceeding 300 million rubles a year. These figures speak eloquently to the point that those who hold the view that drunkenness and alcoholism do not constitute an urgent problem for our republic are wrong.

3. The Center for the Study, Formation and Forecasting of Public Opinion of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia periodically conducts specific sociological studies of the state of the alcoholism problem in the republic. The results of recent studies indicate that the alcoholism problem in Georgia exhibits some of its own characteristic features: a considerable part of the problem here is wine alcoholism; alcoholism in rural areas here is on the increase; among those suffering from alcoholism here, the proportion of individuals characterized by marked indications of physical, moral and social degradation or people leading itinerant, parasitic lives is not high.

It is our view that these characteristics should be taken into account in planning and implementing measures aimed at preventing and stopping alcoholism in the republic.

4. Although a substantial proportion of many types of crime and other violations of the law (accidents and vandalism in particular) are committed in a state of intoxication, we do not believe it would be to any advantage to increase the liability for these acts. In our opinion, the law is severe and fair enough; the problem consists only in the need for strict observance and enforcement.

V. SHADURI, first deputy minister of internal affairs of the Georgian SSR:

1. The package of measures the Georgian SSR ministry of internal affairs has implemented jointly with republic party and soviet authorities pursuant to provisions of the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, "Ways to Combat Drunkenness, Alcoholism and Private Distilling Operations," has made a positive impact on the level of public order within the republic.

The continuous downward trend in the number of crimes committed in a state of intoxication which has become apparent over the course of the last few years can still be observed in the data on the first nine months of 1986.

Crime due to drunkenness has now reached its lowest level to date. It is now less than one-third that of the unionwide average. What is most important here, though, is that a fundamental change has occurred in the thinking, the consciousness of the people. We are encountering fewer and fewer individuals who fail to comprehend the political significance of the new antialcohol legislation. We are also seeing less public intoxication, which is supported by data from the republic's alcohol treatment centers.

2. The measures the party and government have implemented to step up the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism have met with understanding and approval on the part of our entire society. At the same time, however, you can still find some of our citizens who remain of the opinion that the situation in the republic is not one that should inspire alarm. It is simply impossible to agree with these people, because it is perfectly clear that their approach to the problem of drunkenness is a shallow, superficial one. Alcoholism has begun to spread among our youth, for example, and there is simply no way that this fact alone would not be enough to inspire fears for the future of our generation.

3. We cannot yet be satisfied with the results of our efforts. Some people have unfortunately come to the conclusion that the steps we are taking are part of just a short-term campaign and after the first few resolute steps begin to lose their vigilance, whereas purposefulness and aggressiveness are the keys to success. We also need to intensify the educational programs we conduct at the places of residence of citizens who have been found in violation of the antialcohol laws. And it is here at this level that we need to see the communists heading up the area development soviets and house committees adding their weighty words to the scales. The influence of these organizations is great, for the fact is that they are in an excellent position to spot the heavy drinkers, citizens engaged in the production and sale of privately made vodka and who make their apartments available for all manner of drinking parties etc.

4. As has been the case with many other types of crime, the figures on hooliganism attributable to alcohol for the last six months show a drop in crime in this category as compared with the same period last year. Cases of criminally punishable hooliganism, for example, are down 23.7 per cent, while the numbers of violations of traffic laws involving fatalities have dropped 23.1 per cent. Contributing in no small way to these developments has been the decree of the presidium of the supreme soviet of the Georgian SSR, "Increasing Liability for Alcohol-Related Traffic Violations," which was promulgated shortly after the new antialcohol laws came into force.

I. KULIDZHANOV, secretary of the party committee at the Isani Footwear Production Association in Tbilisi:

1. To participate in the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism is the duty of all party organizations and all communists. This campaign is no passing thing, but rather a drive to establish a model social order within our society. It has already had a beneficial impact in all spheres of our life and improved the moral and psychological climate here generally.

Our party organization, too, has been actively involved in the campaign to reestablish sobriety as a way of life. The association has created a voluntary sobriety campaign society, while the individual shops have set up their own campaign centers as part of the effort. When we look at the results of these efforts we can observe with satisfaction that much has indeed been accomplished, although problems, of course, remain. Our job now is to overcome them.

2. While it is true that there are those who believe that Georgia has no problem with drunkenness, the last few months have shown clearly that an uncompromising campaign against this evil has enabled us to achieve sharp increases in labor productivity and improve product quality dramatically. We can see that people have begun

to treat one another with more consideration and respect. Many families have been able to stay together, and we have seen a decrease in the number of motor vehicle accidents involving fatalities.

3. Steps which have been taken to date have left their mark in our association as well. From June 1985 to August 1986 15 of our employees have spent time in alcohol treatment centers in Tbilisi and elsewhere in the republic. During the same period 11 employees were found in an intoxicated state on the job. These figures are much lower than those for last year, but they are by no means any justification for complacency. We are fully resolved to continue our search for new ways and means to wage the campaign against drunkenness.

Together with the party committee, the trade union committee and the Komsomol committee, the commission on the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism has developed an integrated plan aiming not only at the eradication of this evil, but at intensifying social education and ideological activities and the organization of cultural, fitness and athletic programs.

To establish and reinforce the sobered life-style places a great premium on proper, judicious organization of free-time activities. Our trade union and Komsomol organizations have organized a great many interesting activities in this connection, to include, for example, trips out of town, recreational evenings for the young people, discotheques and sports competitions. It should be pointed out in passing that programs like these require better organization, more attention to detail and greater imagination.

Workers in the shop where USSR State Prize winner G. Rimnistaveli works launched an initiative whereby the collective as a whole would strive to achieve the sober life as a collective. Now in successful operation are the "sobriety centers" the shop has set up, which have the responsibility of keeping an eye on those who have a tendency to drink too much. This initiative has now been taken up throughout the enterprise, where people have experienced the power of the control program and the concern of the collective.

4. I think the sanctions in this area should be strengthened. In my opinion, drunken drivers, for example, should lose not only their license, but their car as well.

The campaign against drunkenness must be consistent, unrelenting and uncompromising. Only with a campaign like this will we be able to achieve the results we want.

A. MOVSESYAN, Georgian SSR minister of trade:

1. In August of last year the bureau of the central committee of the Communist Party of Georgia reviewed the results of a public inspection conducted to check conditions of business in the nonalcoholic beverage market in a number of areas of the republic and declared our ministry's performance in the campaign now under way against drunkenness and alcoholism to be unsatisfactory. We are doing everything possible to perform the tasks with which we have been charged honorably and to make our contribution to the campaign to eradicate a harmful relic like drunkenness.

After the announcement of an uncompromising campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism in the republic, sales of alcoholic beverages dropped by a third, by one-half in public dining facilities. Some 160 nonalcohol cafe-bars and 20 youth cafe-clubs have opened in 35 cities and regional centers throughout the republic. Where Georgian wine is sold we are trying to offer a wide assortment of grape and fruit juices. We have recently seen improvement in the organization of sales of fruit juice and cold drinks on the street and other public places. But this, of course, is not enough. We still have a lot more work ahead of us.

2. Drunkenness is a great evil, one of the most harmful of problems, one which has an enormous negative economic and moral impact on the state, on society, on the individual and on present and future generations. Drunkenness is responsible for breaking up one-third of our families and the senseless, pointless waste of enormous amounts of material resources. So that the problem, in our view, is in fact a very urgent one. To have to state this fact is particularly offensive to us, what with the fact that drunkenness, wild drinking parties and excessive drinking generally have never been characteristic of the widely known Georgian hospitality.

Georgia is a very old wine-growing region. Our peasants have long known the value of the vine, but we have never seen any widespread drunkenness in this area. So formerly it was an infrequent thing to hear about crimes committed in a state of intoxication. Let us recall the words of Maxim Gorkiy: he who knows the taste of wine and has mastered and become part of the wine-making culture will never be a drunkard. And this culture has put down deep roots among our people. But the old traditions have now sunk into oblivion, for the fact is that our festive tables will sometimes feature cognac and vodka and develop into occasions for competitions and virtually nonstop drinking. There are unfortunately many instances of this today. We need to wage an uncompromising campaign against this and undertake more systematic preventive programs. These consist precisely in declaring merciless war against drunkenness, eradicating the conditions giving rise to it and in erecting reliable barriers to any further spread of this harmful habit.

3. Everyone is now aware of the resolute steps the republic party organization has taken in the campaign against drunkenness. This campaign is being waged by economic, sociopolitical, organizational and medical means. The press has written a great deal about them, and they have been covered extensively in radio and television reporting. Strict observance of regulations governing the sale of alcoholic beverages is also a critical factor in the campaign against drunkenness. Many people are no doubt now aware of the whole series of restrictions which have been introduced here. We are making every effort to observe the standards which have been established, the absolute ban, for example, on sales of alcoholic beverages to people under 21. In accordance with current legislation it is forbidden to sell liquor in commercial establishments located in the vicinity of industrial enterprises, construction sites, educational institutions, cultural and entertainment establishments, in areas where the public strolls and in the neighborhood of areas where workers spend leisure time.

As the public inspection revealed, there are still instances, admittedly rare, in which the commercial trade system is guilty of violations of regulations governing the sale of alcoholic beverages. I would like to point out that employees engaged in commercial trade and the public dining services end of the business are being fined from 50 to 100 rubles for these violations. If there is a repetition of such

violations over the course of the next year, criminal proceedings will be instituted against the violators, who will be punished to the tune of up to two years' corrective labor or a fine of from 200 to 300 rubles and deprived of the right to employment in commercial trade and public dining facilities for from 3 to 5 years.

4. The decree of the presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet intensifying the campaign against drunkenness increased administrative liability for crimes committed while intoxicated, to include malicious hooliganism and motor vehicle accidents. In our view, these punishments correspond entirely to the spirit of the time. The main thing is that they should be applied consistently and systematically. It is precisely at this point that each one of us must assert himself as a citizen and assert himself aggressively. For the fact is that the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism is no short-term thing, rather it is a serious political, national effort, an effort in which each and every one of us is obligated to participate.

B. NANEYSHVILI, corresponding member of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences, professor, chief psychiatrist for the republic ministry of public health:

1. I will dwell for a moment on this problem only from a medical point of view to point out that since the CPSU Central Committee adopted its decree, our industrial organizations have seen substantial decreases in absence from work without valid reason. Preliminary observations would also permit the conclusion that there has been an equally dramatic drop in the number of cases of short-term incapacity for work due to noninfectious or a number of other somatic illnesses and to injuries due to motor vehicle and other transportation-related accidents and accidents in the home.

We have also seen a sharp decrease in the number of professional and nonprofessional motor vehicle operators admitted to drug treatment centers in a state of intoxication.

It would also be worth mentioning that, as compared with previous years, chronic alcoholics are nowadays turning themselves in more frequently for voluntary treatment in special psychoneurological and narcological treatment centers.

2. An intensification of the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism is just as timely a step for our republic as it for the others. While the number of people suffering from alcoholism is still comparatively low in our republic, we have nevertheless recently observed an upward trend in the figures: we are seeing the geography of alcoholism spread and a decrease in the age of the population afflicted with alcoholism.

The consumption of alcohol, as everyone knows, brings on a euphoria or some temporary improvement in mood and attitude. While some people derive positive emotional experience from their work, the families, their children, books they have read, or plays or movies they have seen, others satisfy their emotional needs more "simply"—by drinking alcohol. The satisfaction of the need for pleasant, positive emotional experiences by drinking heavily, however, impoverishes and ultimately suppresses entirely any other human desire.

3. The medical and administrative measures which have now been implemented are effective enough, but they can still be refined a little. More attention should be given to programs aimed at preventing drunkenness and alcoholism. This, of course, is a complex problem, one which has not only medical, but social, legal, economic and other aspects as well.

The alcoholism prevention campaign is now taking a number of directions, to include an extensive educational program aimed at raising the cultural level of the population, cultivation of a public opinion directed against alcohol, better organization of cultural leisure-time activities and popular health and hygiene education programs. In other words, this comes down to increasing popular understanding in the fields of health, hygiene and culture, propagandizing for a health-conscious life-style, aiming for the elimination of habits harmful to health and cultivating an anti-alcohol frame of mind among the younger generation.

The eradication of alcoholism is a national effort. Success can be achieved only with maximum application of all our energies and effective implementation of medical, social and administrative measures.

4. As a physician it would be difficult for me to respond to the question of whether any tightening up in the law would result in reduced criminality. I think the best thing in this situation would be to proceed on the basis of what is now an age-old approach: the law should achieve its ends not through its severity, but rather by its inevitability.

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IMPROVEMENT IN GEORGIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE TRAINING URGED

Tbilisi KOMMUNIST GRUZII in Russian No 12, Dec 86 (signed to press 2 Dec 86) pp 66-69

[Article by Bichiko Rafiyelovich Diasamidze, instructor, Department of Scientific Communism and Philosophy, Batumi State Pedagogical Institute imeni Sh. Rustaveli, Candidate of Philosophical Sciences: "Take Practical Considerations into Account;" "Reform, the Demand of the Times"]

[Text] During a period of intensifying ideological struggle it is no longer enough to turn out knowledgeable professionals; it is of no less importance that they be ideologically and politically literate specialists as well. As stated in the CPSU Central Committee draft, "Basic Areas of Reorganization in Higher and Secondary Specialized Education," "accomplishment of the program objective of accelerating the country's social and economic development requires fundamental improvement of the professional and Marxist-Leninist training of our specialists. The skill and competence of our cadres and a deep sense of civic responsibility on their part will to a great extent determine the scale and pace of the progress we make in science and technology and the degree to which we can intensify the development of the national economy."

The reorganization in our systems of higher and specialized secondary education outlined by the 27th Party Congress is a demand of the times. It is based on a concept which involves a greater role for the human factor, a concept in accordance with which socialist society, as we find in the new edition of the CPSU Program, "cannot function efficiently without finding new ways to stimulate creative activity among the masses of the people in all spheres of life."

The most critical task facing the higher school is that of realizing fundamental improvements in the quality of the training we provide our specialists. The role it plays in the spiritual life of society and in raising the educational and cultural level of the population overall is now greater than ever before. Hence the need to deepen the ideological-theoretical and humanitarian content of our higher education and link it more intimately to the practical side of our social life as a basis on which to cultivate high civic and moral qualities in the individual human being. The CPSU Central Committee draft declares that "we must make fuller use of the great potential of our educational institutions for raising the level of the communist education of our youth and of all working people."

Clearly of great importance to success in achieving these objectives is going to be improvement in the quality of our social science instruction. This is precisely the problem Comrade M. S. Gorbachev addressed in his speech at the all-Union conference of social science department chairmen. Among other things, he pointed out that "an ability to orient oneself in today's complex, contradictory, but at the same time interdependent world is no natural gift. Nor does it come automatically as something one acquires at the same time he is mastering his specialized discipline. This is something that has to be taught our future specialists. For the fact is that one's view of the world is not simply an aggregate of general information about the world. It is at the same time the individual's perceived class interests and ideals, legal and moral standards, social priorities, humanistic values, in short, all those factors which go into the choosing of a course of personal conduct in life and into determining the degree of responsibility an individual exercises in his attitudes and his thinking about both society and himself."

It was for precisely this reason that the conference gave so much attention to what is conceived to be the essential function of the social sciences—the development of the mental, intellectual foundation of the individual personality and a positive, active attitude toward his role in society on the part of the individual Soviet citizen. Only in this way can we develop in the student the personal attributes essential for the Soviet specialist of today, qualities such, for example, as a boundless loyalty to the cause of the party and the nation, an ability to comprehend the nature of changes occurring in society and to develop a clear understanding of his place and role in the realization of these changes. The accomplishment of these objectives depends to no small degree on the professional training of our teaching social scientists and their ability to convey information and impart knowledge, to transmit the wealth and variety of the materials involved interestingly and with the appropriate degree of emotion, on the very personality of the teacher himself and on the degree of credibility he has established with the individuals with whom he is attempting to communicate. A study of the political interests of his students will therefore be of great importance in the teaching of the social disciplines.

In the meantime, however, as a sociological study conducted by the laboratory of the department of scientific communism and philosophy of the Pedagogical Institute imeni Sh. Rustaveli in Batumi has shown, the study of a number of the social sciences encounters certain difficulties. These are due, in the view of 21.3 per cent of those responding, to shortages of textbooks in the Georgian language, to the difficulty of the programs according to 18.1 per cent, to unsystematic approaches to the subject matter for 15.9 per cent, to the low level of the work in the view of 12.8 per cent and so forth.

First and foremost we need to improve the quality of the studies in this area. We must develop in each student an understanding of the social function of the social sciences and demonstrate that to obtain a broad, general education, comprehend the importance of these disciplines and develop the essential political instincts and feelings is impossible without going more deeply into the subject matter of these fields. But to do this the way things are organized today, when the groupings of students combine representatives of three or possible five specializations, is a very difficult thing. This has nothing whatsoever to do with the number of students involved. What we are saying, simply, is that any discussion of specific problems in the social sciences is best oriented so as to take account of the specialties of

the students involved. Given our objectives, the best approach to the problems here, in my view, would be to group students together according to their primary specializations. This, incidentally, is not the first time this question has been raised. But while it is universally acknowledged that proper methodology requires that instruction in the social sciences should be organized with reference to student profile and specialization, this problem has yet to find practical solution in the individual schools themselves.

The draft of "Basic Areas of Reorganization" outlines a broad program aimed at shifting the focus from instruction designed simply to convey information to a more active form of instruction, one which shifts the stress to individual work with students. To go over to this new, active form of instruction entails an extensive introduction of problem-oriented lectures, reworking seminar work into discussion sessions, reducing the amount of time devoted to theoretical studies and increasing the role of practical work in the training program.

As far as the situation with the publication of instructional and secondary literature on the social sciences is concerned, what we are still seeing is disorganization. We have been lagging behind for a number of years now with the publication of textbooks in Georgian on dialectical and historical materialism and scientific communism. And the books currently available are out of date. Leaving aside the matter of the statistical data, a number of the hypotheses presented in the texts referred to have now been revised. In the meantime, however, the majority of our students are having to use outdated textbooks.

This question, incidentally, received considerable attention from participants attending the all-Union conference of social science department chairmen, who heard it declared that "the preparation of new textbooks is one of our major problems. Current textbooks have outlived their usefulness.... New textbooks are going to have to present material which corresponds fully to the demands of the time and the problems involved in reorganizing our programs of instruction in the social sciences." The unity of the training and educational processes depends to a great extent on both the professional and methodological training we provide our social science lecturers. As has been pointed out in the CPSU Central Committee decree on the journal KOMMUNIST, present-day social development is posing problems which are essentially complex, many-sided problems. And this, of course, requires a program of well-rounded, comprehensive training for our social scientists.

Of course, there can be no underestimating the fact that desire, interest, organization and the attitude of students toward their training programs are all important factors in determining the effectiveness of this process. The opinion sample referred to above confirms this. When we asked students the question: "What makes the study of the social sciences easier for you?," 69.4 per cent of them said it was the clarity and understandability of the lectures, 40.4 per cent emphasized their interest in studying these subjects, 29.8 per cent the availability in sufficient quantities of textbooks and secondary literature, 21.3 per cent their belief in the importance of these subjects, 18.1 per cent the demandingness of the instructors etc.

What is remarkable here is the fact that students attach crucial importance in their study of the social sciences to the person of the instructor himself and the level of his professional and methodological training. The moral character of the instructor

was of particular importance to the students. When they were asked to rank what they considered to be the essential attributes of a social science instructor they gave the following responses: deep, specialized knowledge — 63.8 per cent; broad, general knowledge — 53.2 per cent; objectivity — 53.2 per cent; an ability to impart their knowledge to students persuasively and with the proper degree of emotional involvement — 52.1 per cent; tact — 47.9 per cent; personal integrity — 39.4 per cent; a deep sense of professional responsibility — 38.3 per cent; refusal to compromise with deficiencies, boldness, adherence to principle — 29.8 per cent etc.

The responses given in this survey paint a picture of the social science instructor which shows him to be a specialist possessing broad general knowledge capable of transmitting his knowledge in an interesting and highly professional manner. At the same time, however, the subjects attached no less importance to the moral qualities: objectivity, tact, integrity, adherence to principle etc. So this means that in the interest of the effectiveness of our programs of instruction in the social sciences and of increasing this effectiveness, we are going to have to give particular attention to efforts to improve the qualifications and the general moral character of our social science instructors. On the side of the instructors in these disciplines must stand not only the authority of the science they represent, but the clarity of their own ideological position, the fascination of the searching ideas and the moral attraction of their individual personalities. The student demands of the social science instructor not so much that he transmit to them what he has gotten out of books and the press, but that he communicate to them his attitudes and views on one question or another. His grasp of theory and ideology, his ability to establish an organic link between theoretical questions and practical problems and his moral character and attitudes all play critical roles here.

This is an extremely important aspect of our restructuring effort, what with the fact that it is precisely through our ability to comprehend and interpret practical requirements theoretically that we will be able to develop in our students an integral conception of Marxist-Leninist teaching.

Of no less importance is the need to overcome our formalistic thinking concerning the organization of the training process. The reality is that it unfolds in accordance with one and the same scenario — "question - answer," a scenario in which the student plays the passive role. In the meantime, however, in view of the fact that it is precisely the student who is the central figure of the institution of higher education, it has now become clear that our studies must be clearly and concretely linked to events currently stirring our society and our youth and conducted in an atmosphere of openness and mutual confidence.

And here we come to the question of open dialogues with our student youth and the need to conduct lessons of truth. For the fact is that V. I. Lenin himself taught that our strength lay always in the truth. So it was not without reason that at the all-Union conference of social science department chairmen it was emphasized that "we cannot accept a situation in which students hear one thing in their lectures, but then see something else entirely in real life. We must throw the doors of the lecture halls of our institutions of higher education wide open to life and make every lesson a school of Marxist-Leninist analysis of the urgent problems of the day." To ignore critical questions and social contradictions not only places the instructor in an awkward position, but it also creates artificial barriers to unity between

theory and practice. It is precisely the open dialogues and lessons of truth which will enable us to mobilize students for the struggle against shortcomings not simply in words, but in deed as well.

The times now dictate that in their work our social science instructors take broad account of concrete practical requirements. It was no coincidence that delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress heard it declared that "in the effort to accelerate social and economic development we are seeing the creation of exceptionally favorable social conditions for enhancing the effectiveness of ideological work. We should not anticipate on this account, however, that ideological-political, vocational and moral education are going in any way to be made easier. We must keep continually in mind that the situation today, regardless of how advantageous it may be, still contains its contradictions and difficulties." And it is precisely at the identification and surmounting of these contradictions and difficulties and, thereby, at the restructuring of our program of higher education that the reforms are directed. The implementation of this reform is the duty of all VUZ personnel.

8963

CSO: 1830/375

READERS' LETTERS CONDEMN HEALTH CARE IN UKRAINE

Kiev RABOCHAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Jan 87 p 2

[Letter by I. A. Luzina and RABOCHAYA GAZETA editorial commentary: "What 'Ails' Health Care?"]

[Text] This is not an easy subject, but we have to talk about it. The subject is the quality of our health care. For too long we have deemed it self-evident that our free health care was in every respect the best of the best and the most reliable. Of course, in its basic principles, in the concept upon which the whole giant system rests, everything remains the way it was conceived - for the people, in the name of humanitarian goals. In real life, however, we often see this fundamental idea distorted: that which exists "for the people" actually works against the interests of a specific human being. Long waits outside consulting rooms in polyclinics, inattentiveness, sometimes even rudeness on the part of medical personnel, tardy dispensation of aid, shortages of drugs due to negligence on the part of hospital staff and shortages of orderlies and nurses due to faulty organization...

"A program has been drawn up for the erection and reconstruction of medical facilities, drug and medical equipment production capacities are being increased, work is being accelerated on the introduction and development of new forms of health care and of new principles in the organization of medical science," said comrade M. S. Gorbachev in his report to the recent plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. "Organizally linked to all this are measures to make the working and living conditions of the population more sanitary, expand prophylaxis, eradicate drunkenness and alcoholism and reduce morbidity. Health-care workers' pay will be raised." The plenum likewise stressed that "we have achieved no fundamental changes in the development of the social sphere and to a large extent remain rooted to the old approach." Naturally, this applies to the problem of health care as well.

Many letters addressed to ispolkom health departments, the Ministry of Health, the newspapers and various party organs are devoted to the same subject.

RABOCHAYA GAZETA has decided to publish one such letter. It was written by Inna Aleksandrovna Luzina who up until recently was a fitter at the "Tochelektropribor" plant but had to retire for health reasons. Actually, she wrote two letters to this paper. One we forwarded to the UkSSR Ministry of Health for a response to the author. What came of this is the subject of her second letter which, in our view, must give rise to some serious thought.

Dear comrade editor!

Excuse me for bothering you for the second time, but I was a bit upset that you sent my letter to the ministry. The object of my first letter was to thank the doctors who saved my life, particularly since just before that I came across a totally different attitude.

Let me again recount everything from the start the way it happened. In the beginning of last year I suddenly became very ill. With great difficulty I managed to make my way to the district polyclinic. Doctor Blazhnin, a urologist, diagnosed it tentatively as kidney stones. To confirm the diagnosis and to receive treatment I was quickly admitted to the Urology department of Hospital No 6 (this is in Medgorodok).

What can I tell you about my condition at the time? The only way I could move down the hospital hallway was by holding on to the wall. At night I couldn't sleep a wink because of the excruciating pain.

Day passed after day, but there was no relief. The doctors showed practically no interest in me, no nurse came to my side. In addition to the physical distress I began to suffer morally: nobody cares about me, I am all alone with my pain.

I tried to convince myself that one mustn't be offended by the medics' indifference to our pain because they see it every day.

Having waited unsuccessfully for 10 days to be examined (my turn simply failed to come up) I decided to check out of the hospital. I obtained the needed medicines and had myself X-rayed. This took a mere 5 minutes. Then I signed into the hospital again. Only to this day it puzzles me: how come it is easier for a person in critical condition to get an examination not in a hospital to which he was admitted for that very purpose, but on the outside?

Well, I entered the same hospital again, this time with my X-ray photos ready. One day passed, then another. On the fifth day they showed my X-rays to Professor V. V. Zhilo. He saw no stones whatsoever and ordered me discharged.

But that pain did not ease. Only at the end of March was I admitted to the urology center of City hospital No 14 imeni Oktyabrskaya revolyutsiya. These are the doctors I wrote about in my first letter. Coming into this

hospital I feared a repeat of the humiliation I experienced in Hospital No 6 where I got no help at all, but there was no choice. However, everything turned out the exact opposite of what I expected, as if the two hospitals were located not in different parts of the city, but in two different worlds.

I shall never forget the names of the physicians who gave me back if not my health (that would be too strong a statement), then at least a stable condition, and that, I assure you, is more precious than any riches.

There is, first, the doctor who treated me, Aleksandr Vladimirovich Moskalenko, an attentive and gracious man. There is Valentin Nikolayevich Skliar who performed the operation. Many, many times he came to the intensive-care ward to check on my condition. Once, when my doctor was off duty, he changed my dressing himself, though I'm sure he could have assigned the chore to any one of the nurses. I remember, too, the anesthesiologist Vasiliy Leonidovich Iziumenko whom I mentally christened 'the hypnotist' for his uncanny ability to instill serenity in the patient before the operation and confidence in recovery after it. The nurses are as busy as honeybees, that is my affectionate word for them.

But after you forwarded my letter to the ministry I received a reply from a department head in the Kiev City Health Administration T. Andriychuk. Here is what he wrote: "It has been established that during your stay in the urology department of Clinical hospital No 6 medical examination and treatment were not provided in full measure." I read this phrase and smiled wryly because just a short while back he had written the exact opposite: "... the examination and treatment you received in the urology department of Clinical hospital No 6 were administered according to findings and in full measure."

Comrade Andriychuk then went on to say: "For these shortcomings disciplinary action has been taken against Urology department head N. G. Snezhko, urologist A. P. Yatsemirskiy and urologist V. M. Girich." I know very well, however, that neither Snezhko nor Yatsemirskiy had any part in my treatment, I never even set eyes on them. On the other hand, those who tried their best to get me off their hands as soon as possible by discharging me from the hospital were not even mentioned.

Please understand me correctly: I am not demanding punishment of any kind for the medical blunder that occurred in my case. Physicians can err too, though their mistakes are of a special kind that can deprive a patient of his health and even his life. But why give me a bland bureaucratic reply? Besides, the mistake is not all there is to it...

All this led me to write one more letter. The main thing is that patients in Hospital No 6 are given only formal attention. I saw the same formalistic approach displayed by the City health administration as well. Could that be the cause of it all?

Kiev

I. Luzina

Such a letter...

Fortunately, the story of Inna Aleksandrovna's illness had a happy ending. However, the same cannot be said of the way her letter was looked into by the city health administration and the ministry. For ourselves we can add that the letter addressed to this paper by comrade Dybenko, deputy chief of the Therapeutic and Prophylactic Aid MA, UkSSR Ministry of Health, did not name the guilty parties and gave no assessment of the conduct of comrade Andriychuk who instead of responding to I. A. Luzina's first letter with concrete assistance came up with a "classical" example of bureaucratic cant.

Sad to say, we receive many letters of a similar nature. Here are just a few "fished" out of a recent batch.

"In the morning I had a heart seizure", writes T. Rotaru of the village of Berezhinka, Kirovogradskaya oblast. "The only registered nurse that services our village was at a conference in the rayon hospital. I called there and explained: 'I'm in pain, my pills give no relief, I'm alone in the house, please help me.'

'There's no car', I am told. And they give me the phone number of the deputy chief physician.

'But what can I do' Ada Vasilyevna Orlik asks me, "if there's no transportation?'

Here the conversation ended. I got help only after calling the oblast health administration. They found the transportation after all.

All's well that ends well. But this could have happened at night or on a weekend when the oblast health administration is closed. And last but not least, not everybody has the strength to be so persistent..."

We will quote no more. The message is clear: rural residents are often deprived of the right to medical assistance. Local authorities must share the blame, but this is yet another instance of medical workers' lack of concern for the human being, of a low "level of humaneness".

O. Panchokha, N. Teslia and others from the city of Pereyaslav-Khmel'nitskiy write: "Our town has a population of several score thousand, but only one dental polyclinic, and a small one at that.

A shoe-factory worker broke her dental bridge. She has only three teeth left. At the dental clinic she was told to sign in on the waiting list. The waiting list for 1987, however, has been brought to an end. Now tell us this - can a person with only three teeth in his mouth wait his turn for a whole year.?"

Of course he can't! We are no less outraged than the residents of Pereyaslav-Khmel'nitskiy that such a grotesque situation could develop at all. One can sympathize with the clinic's doctors too: it is, we presume, not much fun to work under the permanent pressure of a living, anxious crowd wracked by toothache. Perhaps the blame for their callousness, for their inability to see that lines consist of people, should be equally divided between the doctors themselves and those who pushed both doctors and patients into a situation so humiliating one could cry.

"Much is being said today about the quality of human services," writes V. P. Denisov from Kiev. "What is being done in our city" It can safely be said - absolutely nothing. For example, our polyclinic (Zoologicheskaya Street No 3) has not had a doctor on sector No 7 for about a year now, and nobody knows when it will. Each time the house calls are made by other doctors. When you go to one yourself he will not give you a second look. For him we are, you see, "another's" patients..."

"Not my physician", "not my patients", "another's pain". These and similar stories about the "ulcers" on the body of our medicine that fill the pages of incoming letters witness to a deepening of a phenomenon one could call the alienation of the doctor from the human being. There are other letters in the mail too, letters thanking the medics. It is a pleasure to read them and at the same time painful because their authors are for the most part grateful not for some extraordinary service rendered, but for that which should go without saying: proper treatment, a cordial attitude. The "economics" of medicine have come to bear a direct relationship to its ethics, its morality. A good doctor is first and foremost a good man with all that this entails, including a high degree of professional skill.

And one more letter. After recounting the story of his wife's serious illness and its treatment in the rayon hospital which led to a worsening of her condition, the author, P. I. Sakhno (village of Rakitnoye, Kiev oblast) writes:

"I could describe my own treatment too, but enough is enough. It is distressing and painful that even I, no more than a technician-mechanic, even I get upset if a tractor breaks down for some minor reason. And I feel very ashamed when there's something I don't know. But these doctors - they have a higher education!... I would advise this: why not open some pay medical centers? That way we could all see who is capable of what. If this or that doctor is not much good at his job, he won't earn anything, because nobody would go to an underqualified 'specialist'."

Free health care is one of our major social achievements, but today, according to sociologists, it is to a large degree devalued by the low level of service.

To sum up: our mail suggests that the time has come for a serious discussion of the urgent problems in health care organization, in the training of medical cadres, relations between medical services and local authorities, incentives for health care workers. We must decide whether the most humane profession is compatible with a formalistic approach to the human being.

Let us discuss these problems together. Let us together look for their solutions.

12258

CSO: 1830/395

YOUTH PAPER REPORTS ON ESTONIAN DEFECTORS

[6 May 87 p 4]

PM140859 [Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 1987 carries on page 4 under the headline "Shadows on the Other Shore" a 2,400-word I. Teterin and O. Miyl report on four young Estonians--Rayvo Roosna, Kharri Gelshteyn, Aleks Lepayyye, and Andre Khildebrand--who "betrayed their motherland by fleeing from Estonia to the West." The writers state that "the main thing for us to know is--whom were they running from? Why did our life not suit them?" They blame the parents and spotlight the upbringing of the four people in question. They were all black marketeers, but "this did not worry" their parents. During their work on the black market they came into close contact with foreigners and were amazed at "the ease with which foreign tourists spent money, how elegantly they were dressed, and what modern cars they drove." The desire to defect was crystallized when Andre Khildebrand ran down a member of a voluntary people's militia detachment and was due to stand trial. Realizing that Khildebrand's trial would probably reveal their own activities, Andre's friends decided to join him in defecting. Teterin and Miyl related only that "the car left the house around midnight" and that "the escape was successful." The men reached Uppsala in Sweden, where they stayed with Andre's grandfather. But, the writers conclude, it was not long before the newspapers carried the headline "Young Freedom Fighters' Courageous Escape From Occupied Estonia!"

[7 May 87 p 4]

[Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 1987 carries on page 4 under the headline "Shadows on the Other Shore" a 2,400-word article by O. Miyl and I. Teterin. The article, the second in a three-part series, continues the case of the four Estonian emigres Rayvo Roosna, Kharri Gelshteyn, Aleks Lepayyye and Andre Khildebrand. The article speaks of the "rivalry" among various Estonian emigre groups in Sweden, names their "leaders" as Yukhan Kokla, Aleksandr Milits, Arvo Khorm, and Ants Kippar, and states that each sought to recruit the four emigres into their organizations. The article stresses that the decision on how best to "use" such emigres, be it for carrying "secret information," "subversive work," or for matters "more serious," usually comes

"from abroad." The article notes that Kokla's orders come from Karl Laanteye, chief of VOA's Estonian office. Milits is termed the "representative of the People's Labor Alliance in Sweden," while another Estonian, Yulo Ignatsu, receives his instruction from "U.S. intelligence agents" at RFE.

The writers note that the four Estonians received the status of "political refugees" from the Swedish authorities. They then comment: "We do not intend to interfere in Sweden's internal affairs or to criticize the disposition of forces in Stockholm's corridors of power. But it would be unobjective to ignore the obvious fact that this is not the first time that adventurers with a criminal past who have left our country have found 'asylum' here."

"It was not until the fall of 1984 that the propaganda machine was set fully in motion," the writers note. They provide examples of propaganda attacks on the USSR by the four emigres, in particular by Lepayyye.

The writers note that the emigres, in need of money, returned to the criminal ways that they had pursued in the USSR. Police investigations of supermarket robberies in Stockholm caused suspicion to fall on Lepayyye and Roosna, but "they were not even taken into custody. Why? Was it not because it could cause embarrassment?" Then, after further investigations by the police and radio and press appearances by Lepayyye, he and Roosna "simply disappeared" on 16 April 1985. The writers conclude this installment by noting that on the very next day the "final chapter in this entire story would open."

[8 May 87 p 4]

[Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 1987 carries on page 4 under the headline "Shadows on the Other Shore" the third and last 2,400-word installment of the article by I. Teterin and O. Miyl on the four young Estonians Rayvo Roosna, Kharri Gelshteyn, Aleks Lepayyye, and Andre Khildebrand.

The item opens with a description of the armed robbery of a jeweler's store and a bank in Helsinki, the subsequent police investigation, and the arrest of Roosna and Lepayyye for the crimes. The authors express their surprise at the fact that the Swedish newspaper SVENSKA DAGBLADET reported the case in only "six lines" and that VOA "kept silent about it," and go on to state that the culprits had claimed that "the money had been ... expropriated for the purpose of 'national liberation struggle.'"

Miyl and Teterin proceed to examine the justifications put forward by the Estonian refuge organizations, citing Arvo Khorm, secretary of the "Estonian National Council" bureau, as having said: "Generally speaking, all our organizations are of an anticommunist nature..." They also quote the following question asked by a Finnish reporter, and Khorm's reply:

"'So, who pays you, the CIA?'

"'What do you mean,' Khorm waves his hands in panic, 'we receive money from the Swedish Government...'"

Khorm is later quoted as having offered the following explanation "in one of his interviews": "Unfortunately, dishonest people have been escaping to us from the USSR recently," and as having claimed that Lepayyye "was born into a Jewish family and, until his marriage, went by the name of Kholtsvel." Miyl and Teterin interpret this last statement as a hint by Khorm that "Zionist centers had organized the robberies."

The authors go on to attack the Swedish and Finnish press for their treatment of the case, saying that "thieves and criminals are transformed here into 'freedom fighters,' adventurers into 'Soviet mafia,' and CIA agents into 'leaders' of emigre nationalist organizations."

The article ends with a description of the latest developments in the lives of the four young Estonians.

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ECONOMIST BEMOANS WASTE OF SKILLED WORKERS ON UNSKILLED LABOR

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Mar 87 p 2

[Article by S. Zlupko, candidate of economic sciences, assistant professor, senior scientific associate at the Lvov Department of Institute of Economics, UkSSR Academy of Sciences: "Using Cadres Effectively"]

[Text] Society's chief productive force is people. It is for good reason that the draft version of the USSR Law entitled "The State Enterprise" emphasizes that the enterprise is obliged to attach primary importance to increasing the activity rate of the human factor. Concern for the worker and the conditions for his increased activity constitutes the meaning of many articles in the draft.

Thus, the article dealing with the council of the enterprise's work collective states that the council considers questions "of the conformity of the payment of labor performed by the workers to their personal contribution and of the just distribution of social blessings." This is very important, since, in recent years, one could observe in wages a clear tendency toward equalization, as a result of which many workers did not value their place properly. As a consequence there were losses of manpower and work time, a reduction in labor and technological discipline, and a fall in the quality of output.

Violations of the principle of distribution according to labor have especially affected our skilled cadres. Thus, in our national economy 4 million certified specialists are working in jobs that do not require secondary special education, much less higher education. We carried out, for example, an analysis of the employment rate at enterprises in Lvov, Droboych, and other industrial centers. It was ascertained that one-third of the technicians and almost 6-7 percent of the engineers were working as unskilled laborers. But there were and still are places where there are jobs waiting for them in the specialties in which they were trained at higher and secondary educational institutions.

There are many enterprises where skilled cadres are not being used completely. Therefore it is mandatory in the Law to formulate a statute that indicates that the enterprise (association) is responsible for the efficient and effective use of the workers in conformity with their education, proficiency

level, and capabilities, and a consideration of social needs. Together with the administrators, the labor collective council is also completely responsible for the placement of the cadres.

This will not only serve as a barrier on the path of squandering labor potential, but will also promote the high-quality growth of that potential, because life has proven that people who are employed in a job that matches their capabilities and preferences feel more comfortable, work more creatively, and engage more actively in making inventions, in the improvement of efficiency, and in conducting research.

Another statute in the draft version of the Law which is of great importance is the one concerning the just distribution of social blessings, and in particular those which the person receives from the social consumption funds. Quite recently the situation used to be interpreted in too simplified a way. It used to be felt that everyone, irrespective of his labor contribution, has the right to identical access to those funds. And so it turned out that access to restorative, social-cultural, and recreational services was received even by those who least of all deserved social compensation. In this regard the scientists at the Lvov Department of the Institute of Economics, UkSSR Academy of Sciences, received some interesting information. For example, a questionnaire circulated among the persons relaxing at the all-union health-resort city of Truskavets showed that in 1985 three-fourths of them were employees and ITR [engineer-technical workers], and only one-fourth were unskilled workers. At enterprises of the Zakarpattes PO [Production Association], at the Vinogradov Canning Plant, the Mukachevo Garment Factory, and other industrial associations in Transcarpathian Oblast, trip tickets to sanatoriums and rest homes are received annually by only 10.6 percent of the workers. At dispensaries, sanatoriums, and health resorts at the Iskra PO in Lvov in 1979-1983 the unskilled workers recuperating constituted only 11.4 percent. It is offensive that only 13 percent of the persons who work constantly under hazardous conditions were able to obtain from the enterprise where they worked the trip tickets to dispensaries, sanatoriums, and health resorts.

Of course, this information must be interpreted intelligently. It attests only to the fact that in any instance the person's access to social blessings must be determined by his labor contribution to the common job. This is the chief gauge for determining his wages, the social blessings, and the psychological incentives. The strict observance of the practical implementation of the principle of social justice must also be under the surveillance of the council of the enterprise's labor collective. Then the mighty motivator of the creative participation of every individual will reach its full power, and the great gains of socialism will be used more effectively.

It is also necessary to mention the following. The measures to increase the human factor which were submitted for discussion in the Law must be made more concrete and must be formulated more precisely. They reflect almost not at all such differences as the sex, age, demographic structure, and cadre specifications of the most productive segment of the workers. Formulations such as "the enterprise strives for (introduces, creates, organizes, etc.) must be intensified. In many instances it is necessary to state "the enterprise is obliged" to do what it ought to do, because concern for the person cannot be excessive. That concern also pays for itself both by the greater labor activity and by the higher quality of the labor contribution.

UKSSR PROCURATORS REVIEW ILLEGAL USE OF ENERGY, STATE TRANSPORT

Kiev RABOCHAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Mar 87 p 2

[Unattributed article under the rubric "At the UkSSR Procurator's Office":
"Setting Up a Barrier Against Unearned Income"]

[Text] The UkSSR Procurator's Office has carried out inspections of the execution of the legislation governing the fight against the acquisition of unearned income. The consideration of this question at a board session indicated that in many oblasts there has been a considerable intensification of the fight against mercenary crimes, malfeasances, and other types of unjustified enrichment. A considerable number of crimes were ascertained and stopped: thefts, instances of the use of means of transportation for reasons of personal profit, the feeding of grain products to livestock, the illegal release and acquisition of fuels and lubricants, and speculation.

At the same time, in individual oblasts, the work of preventing these negative phenomena was still being carried out with insufficient effectiveness. One of the basic sources of unearned income is thefts and robberies, which are most widespread at enterprises in the agroindustry, state trade, the consumer cooperative system, the personal services sphere, and the municipal management.

In Vinnitsa, Zaporozhye, Cherkassy, and certain other oblasts, as a result of the lack of supervision on the part of individual ispolkoms and their housing and municipal agencies, a situation that became widespread was the subleasing of government apartments at rent that considerably exceeds that which was established by law. In Nikolayev the inspections revealed numerous instances of the subleasing of reserved apartments and the acquisition of unearned income. In Odessa, Krym and Lvov oblasts, weak steps are still being taken to discontinue the instances of illegal enrichment from the renting of housing to tourists.

A considerable loss is inflicted on the government by the illegal use of electrical energy for mercenary purposes. The energy-inspection agencies make little use of the force of law. The Odessa Energy Production Association discovered on the territory of Odessa, Nikolayev, and Kherson oblasts more

than 800 violators, who had stolen electrical energy with a total value of 187,000 rubles, but only a few of them have been brought to administrative accountability.

In Volyn, Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Zaporozhye oblasts and in Kiev, there have been widespread instances of the use of governmental transportation for mercenary purposes. At the same time the economic managers do not always carry out the proper supervision of the work of motor transport, and fail to take steps to get compensation for the harm done to the government.

The procurators have taken steps to eliminate the violations of legislation that were revealed, and brought suit against approximately 2000 individuals in the interests of the government. The board has required the procurators to increase the effectiveness of the supervision over the illegal execution of the party and government decisions governing the intensification of the fight against unearned income, and to assure the strictest observance of socialist legality and the protection of the citizens' rights and interests.

5075

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REGIONAL ISSUES

BRIEFS

ARMENIAN POPULATION FIGURES--According to Armenian SSR Central Statistical Administration data, the population of the republic stood at 3.4119 million people at the beginning of 1987, including 2.324 million urban residents and 1.0879 rural inhabitants. Whereas the average yearly population increase for Armenia as a whole during the last 5-year plan was 48,600 people, last year this indicator reached 50,200. The number of urban settlements increased by a factor of 7 in comparison with 1970. There are 58 such settlements in the republic. As of January 1987 the population of Yerevan was 1.1683 million. [Armenpress brief] [Text] [Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 7 May 87 p 2]

AZERBAIJAN: NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES--Fizuli--A new automated telephone exchange serving 5000 subscribers has been put into operation in the rayon center. Area code subscribers can be connected with Baku and other cities throughout the country. The residents of Beyuk-Bekhmanly, Akhmedalyar, Kazakhlar, and other villages have recently begun to enjoy automated telephone exchange service. All inhabited areas of the rayon will have automated telephone exchanges by the end of the current 5-year plan. [By S. Gadzhiyev of the rayon newspaper ARAZ] [Text] [Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 24 May 87 p 3]

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